To the moſt Chriſtian king of *Fraunce*, Fraunces *the firſt*.

The relation of Iohn Verarzanus a Florentine, of the lande by him diſcouered in the name of his Maieſtie, written in *Diepe* the eight of Iuly 1524.

I Wrote not to your Maieſtie (moſt Chriſtian king) ſince the time wee ſuffered the tempeſt in the North partes, of the ſucceſſe of the foure Ships, which your Maieſtie ſent forth to diſcouer new lands by the Ocean, thinking your Maieſtie had been alreadie duly enformed thereof. Nowe by theſe preſents I will giue your Maieſtie to vnderſtand, howe by the violence of the windes wee were forced with ỹ two ſhips, the Norman and the Dolphin, in ſuch euill caſe as they were, to lande in Britaine. Whereafter wee had repaired them in all pointes as was needefull and armed them very well, wee tooke our courſe a long by the coaſt of Spaine. Afterwardes with the Dolphin alone, wee determined to make diſcouerie of newe Countries, to proſecute the nauigation wee had alreadie begun, which I purpoſe at this preſent to recount vnto your Maieſtie, to make manifeſt the whole proceeding of the matter. The 17 of Ianuarie, the yeere 1524. by the grace of God, wee departed from the diſhabited Rocke, by the Iſle of Madêra, appertaining to the king of Portingall, with fiftie men, with victuals, weapon, and other ſhip munition very well prouided and furniſhed for 8. monethes: And ſayling weſtwards with a faire Eaſterly winde, in 25. dayes wee ranne 500. leagues, and the 20. of Februarie wee were ouertaken with as ſharpe and terrible a tempeſt as euer any ſaylers ſuffered: whereof with ỹ diuine helpe & merciſull aſſiſtaunce of Almightie God, and the goodneſſe of our ſhip accompanied

with the good hap of her fortunate name wee were deliuered, and with a prosperous wind followed our course West & by North. And in other 25. dayes wee made aboue 400. leagues more, where wee discouered a newe land, neuer before seene of any man either auncient or moderne, and at the first sight it seemed somewhat lowe, but beeing within a quarter of a league of it, wee perceiued by the great fiers that wee sawe by the Sea coaste that it was inhabited: and saw that the lande stretched to the Southwards: in seeking some conuenient harborough whereby to come a lande, and haue knowledge of the place, wee sayled fiftie leagues in vaine, and seeing the lande to runn still to the Southwards wee resolued to returne backe againe towardes the North, where we found our selues troubled with the like difficulty: at length beeing in despaire to finde any port, wee caste anker vpon the coast, and sent our Boate to shore, where we sawe great store of people which came to the Sea side, and seeing vs to approche they fled away, and sometimes would stande still and looke backe, beholding vs with great admiration: but afterwardes beeing animated and assured with signes that wee made them, some of them came harde to the Sea side seeming to reioyce very muche at the sight of vs, and marueiling greatly at our apparell, shape and whitenes, shewed vs by sundry signes where wee might most commodiously come a land with our Boat, offering vs also of their victuals to eate. Nowe I will briefly declare to your Maiestie their life and manners, as farre as wee coulde haue notice thereof: These people goe altogether naked except only that they couer their priuie partes with certaine skinnes of beastes like vnto Martrus, which they fasten vnto a narrowe girdle made of grasse verye artificially wrought, hanged about with tailes of diuers other beastes, which rounde about their bodies hang daungling downe to their knees. Some of them weare garlandes of byrdes feathers. The people are of colour russet, and not much vnlike the Saracens, their hayre blacke, thicke and

not very long, which they tye togeather in a knot behinde & weare it like a taile. They are wel featured in their limbs, of meane stature and commonly somewhat bigger then we, broode breasted, strong armes, their legges and other partes of their bodies well fashioned, and they are disfigured in nothing sauing that they haue somewhat broode visages, and yet not all of them: for wee sawe many of them well fauoured hauing blacke and great eyes, with a cheerefull and stedie looke, not strong of body yet sharpe witted, nymble and great runners, as farre as we coulde learne by experience, and in those two last qualities they are like to the people of the East partes of the worlde, and especially to them of the vttermost partes of China, wee coulde not learne of this people their manner of liuing, nor their particuler customes by reason of ꝑ short abode we made on the shore, our companie being but small, and our ship ryding farre of in the Sea. And not farre from these we founde an other people, whose liuing wee thinke to bee like vnto theirs, (as hereafter I will declare vnto your Maiestie,) shewing at this present the situation and nature of the foresaide lande: The shore is all couered with small sande, and so ascendeth vpwardes for the space of fifteene foote rising in forme of little hilles about fiftie paces broade. And sayling forwards wee founde certaine small Ruers and armes of the Sea, that enter at certain creekes, washing the shore on both sides as the coast lyeth. And beyonde this wee sawe the open Countrie rising in height aboue the sandie shore with many fayre fieldes and plaines, full of mightie great woods, some verie thicke and some thinne, replenished with diuers sortes of trees, as pleasaunt and delectable to beholde as is possible to imagine. And your Maiestie may not thinke that these are like the woodes of Hercinia or the wilde Desertes of Tartary, and the Northerne Coastes full of fruiteleſſe trees: But full of Palme trees, Bay trees, and high Cypresse trees, and many other sortes of trees vnknowne in Europe, which yeeld most sweete sauours farre from the shore, the propertie whereof wee coulde not learne

For the cause aforesaide, and not for any difficultie to passe through the woods: Seeing they are not so thicke but that a man may passe through them. Neither doe wee thinke that they part taking of the East worlde rounde about them are all to geather voide of drugs or spicerie, and other richesse of golde, seeing the colour of the lande doth so much argue it. And the lande is full of many beastes, as Stags, Deare and Hares, and likewise of Lakes and Pooles of Fresh water, with great plentie of foules, conuenient for all kinde of pleasant game. This lande is in latitude 34. D. with good and holsome ayre, temperate, betweene hot and colde, no vehement windes doe blowe in those Regions, and those that doe commonly raigne in those Coastes, are the North West and West windes in the Sommer season, (in the beginning whereof wee were there) the skie cleere and faire with very little raine: and if at any time the ayre bee cloudie and mistie with the Sowtherne winde immediately it is dissolued and waxeth cleare and fayre agayne. The Sea is caulme, not boysterous, the waues gentle, and although all the shore bee somewhat lowe and with out harborough: yet it is not daungerous to the saylers beeing free from rockes and deepe, so that within foure or fiue foote of the shore, there is twentie foote deepe of water without ebbe or flood, the depth still increasing in such vniforme proportion. There is very good ryding at Sea: for any Ship beeing shaken in a tempest can neuer perishe there by breaking of her cables, which wee haue proued by experince. For in the beginning of March (as is vsuall in all Regions) beeing in the Sea oppressed with Northerne windes and riding there, wee founde our anker broken before the earth fayled or mooued at all. Wee departed from this place still running a long the coaste, which we found to trende towarde the East, and wee saw euerie where verie great fiers, by reason of the multitude of the inhabitants. While we rode on that Coaste partlie because it had no harborough, and for that wee wanted water, wee sent our Boat a shore

Gr. 34.

with

with 25. men: where by reason of great and continual waues that beate against the shore, being an open coast, without succour, none of our men coulde possible goe a shore without loosing our boate. We sawe there many people which came vnto the shore, making diuers signes of friendship, and shewing that they were content wee shoulde come a lande, and by trial we found thē to be very courteous & gentle as your maiestie shal vnderstand by the successe. To the intent we might sende them of our thinges, which the Indians commonly desier and esteeme as sheetes of Paper, glasses, belles, and such like trifles: Wee sent a young man one of our Marriners a shore, who swimming towards them, and being within 3. or 4. yeards off the shore, not trusting them, cast the thinges vpon the shore, seeking afterwardes to returne, hee was with such violence of the waues beaten vpon the shore, that he was so bruised that hee lay there almost dead, whiche the Indians perceiuing, ranne to catche him, and drawing him out they carried him a little way of from the sea: The young man perceiuing they caried him, beeing at the first dismaide, began then greatly to feare and cried out pitiously, likewise did the Indians which did accompanie him, going about to cheere him and giue him courage, and then setting him on the grounde at the foote of a little hill against the sunne, beganne to beholde him with great admiration, marueiling at the whitenesse of his flesh: And putting off his clothes they made him warme at a great fire, not without our great feare which remained in the boate, that they would haue rosted him at that fire and haue eaten him. The young man hauing recouered his strength, and hauing stayed a while with them, shewed them by signes that hee was desirous to returne to the shippe: And they with great loue clapping him fast about with many embracings, accompanying him vnto the sea, and to put him in more assurance, leauing him alone they went vnto a high grounde and stoode there, beholding him vntil he was entred into the boate. This yong man obserued as we did also, that these are of colour enclining to Blacke as the other were, with their flesh ve-

Courteous and gentle people.

rie shining of meane stature, handsome visag, and dilicate limmes and of verie little strength: but of prompt witte, farther wee obserued not.

Departing from hence following the shore which trended somewhat towarde the North in 50. leagues space, wee came to another lande which shewed much more faire and full of woods, being very great, where we rode at Ancker, and that wee might haue some knowledge thereof, wee sent 20. men a lande, which entred into the countrey about two leagues, and they founde that the people were fledde to the woods for feare, they sawe onely one olde woman with a young maide of 18. or 20 yeeres olde, which seeing our companie hid them selues in the grasse for feare, the olde woman caried two Infantes on her shoulders, and behinde her necke a childe of 8. yeeres olde: the yong woman was laden likewise with as many: but when our men came vnto them, the women cryed out, the olde woman made signes that the men were fled vnto the woods, as soone as they sawe vs to quiet them and to winne their fauour, our men gaue them suche victuals as they had with them to eate, which the old woman receiued thankfully: but the yong woman disdained them al, and threwe them disdainefully on the grounde, they tooke a childe from the olde woman to bring into Fraunce, and going about to take the young woman which was verye beawtifull & of tal stature, they could not possibly for ẏ great outcries that shee made bring her to the sea, and especially hauing great woods to passe through, and being farre from the shippe, wee purposed to leaue her behinde bearing away the childe onely. We found those folkes to bee more white than those that we founde before, being clad with certaine leaues ẏ hang on boughes of trees, which they sowe together with threedes of wilde hempe, their heads were trussed vp after the same manner as the former were, their ordinarie foode is of pulse, whereof they haue great store, differing in colour & taste frō ours, of good & plasant taste. Moreouer they liue by fishing & fouling which they take with ginnes, and bowes made of hard wood the arrowes of Canes, being

hea-

headed with the bones of fishe and other beastes. The beastes in these parts are much wilder thē in our Europe, by reason they are continually chased and hunted. Wee sawe many of their boates made of one tree 20. foote long, and 4. foote broade, which are not made with Iron, or stone, or any other kinde of metal, (because that in all this countrie for the space of 200 leagues whiche we ranne, wee neuer sawe one stone of any sort): they help themselues with fyre, burning so much of the tree as is sufficient for the hollownesse of the boate, the like they doe in making the sterne and the foreparte vntill it be fitte to saile vpon the sea. The lande is in situation, goodnesse and fairenes like the other: it hath woods like the other, thinne and full of diuers sortes of trees: but not so sweete because the countrey is more northerly and cold.

Wee sawe in this Countrey many Vines growing naturally, which growing vp take hold of the trees as they do in Lombardie, which if by husbandmen they were dressed in good order, without all doubte they woulde yeelde excellent wines: for wee hauing oftentymes seene the fruite thereof dried, whiche was sweete and pleasaunt, and not differing from ours. Wee doe thinke that they doe esteeme the same, because that in euery place where they growe, they take away the vnder braunches growing rounde about, that the fruite thereof may ripen the better.

We found also roses, violettes, lillies, and many sorts of herbes, and sweete and odoriferous flowers different from ours. We knewe not their dwellinges, because they were farre vp in the lande, and wee iudge by manye signes that wee sawe, that they are of wood and of trees framed together.

Wee doe beleeue also by many coniectures and signes, that many of them sleeping in the fieldes, haue no other couer then the open skye. Further knowledge haue wee not of them, we thinke ỹ all the rest whose countreys we passed liue all after one manner, hauing our aboade three dayes in this cuntrey, riding on the coast for want of harboroughs,

concluded to departe from thence, trending along the shore betweene the North and the East, sayling onely in the daytime, & riding at ancker by night in the space of 100. leagues sayling, wee founde a very pleasant place, situated amongst certaine litle steepe hilles: from amiddest the which hilles there ran down into the sea a great streame of water, which within the mouth was very deep, & from ỹ sea to ỹ mouth of same with the tyde which wee found to rise 8. foot, any great vessell laden may passe vp.

But because wee rode at Ancker in a place well fensed from the winde, wee woulde not venture our selues without knowledge of the place, and wee passed vp with our boate onely into the sayde Riuer, and sawe the Countrey very wel peopled. The people are almost like vnto the others, and clad with the fethers of foules of diuers colours, they came towardes vs very cherefully, making great showtes of admiration, shewing vs where we might come to lande most safely with our boate. We entred vp the said riuer into the lande about halfe a league, where it made a most pleasant lake about 3. leagues in compasse: on the which they rowed from the one side to the other to the number of 30. of their small boates: wherein were many people whiche passed from one shore to the other to come and see vs, and beholde vpon the sodaine (as it is wont to fall out in sayling) a contrarie flawe of winde comming from the sea, wee were enforced to returne to our Shippe, leauing this lande to our great discontentment, for the great commoditie and pleasantnesse thereof whiche wee suppose is not without some riches, all the hills shewing minerall matters in thē. We weied Ancker, and sayled towarde the East, for so the coast trended, and so alwayes for 50. leagues being in the sight ther e- of wee discouered an Ilande in forme of a triangle, distant from the maine lande 3. leagues, about the bignesse of the Ilande of the Rodes, it was full of hilles couered with trees, well peopled, for we sawe fires all along the coaste, wee gaue the name of it, of your Maiesties mother, not staying there by reason of the weather being contrarie.

The pleasantnes and riches of the lande.

The descriptiō of Claudia Ilande.

Claudia was wife of King Francis.

And

And wee came to another lande being 15. leagues distant from the Ilande, where wee founde a passing good hauen, wherein being entred we founde about 20. small boates of the people which with diuers cries and wondrings came about our shippe, comming no nerer then 50. paces towards vs, they stayed and beheelde the artificialnesse of our ship, our shape & apparel, thã they al made a loud showte together declaring that they reioyced: when we had somethiug animated them vsing their geastes, they came so neere vs that wee cast them certaine bells and glasses and many toyes, whiche when they had receiued they lookte on them with laughing & came without feare aboyde our shyp. There were amongst these people 2. kings of so goodly stature and shape as is possible to declare, the eldest was about 40. yeeres of ag, the second was a yong man of 20. yeres old. Their apparell was on this maner, the elder had vpõ his naked body a harts skin wrought artificialie with diuers brauches like Damaske, his head was bare with the haire tyed vp behinde with diuers knottes: About his necke he had a large chaine, garnished with diuers stones of sundrie colours the young man was almost appareled after the same manner. This is the goodliest people and of the fairest conditions that wee haue found in this our voyage. They exceed vs in bignes, they are of the colour of brasse, some of thẽ encline more to whitnes: others are of yellowe colour, of comely visage with long & blacke heire which they are very carefull to trim and decke vp, they are blacke and quicke eyed. I write not to your Maiestie, of the other parte of their bodie, hauing all suche proportion as appertayneth to anye handsome man. The women are of the like conformitie and Beawtie, verie handsome and well fauoured, they are as well mannered and continente as anye women, of good education, they are all naked saue their priuie partes whiche they couer with a Dearesskinne brauched or embroidered as the men vse: there are also of them whiche weare on their armes verie riche skinnes of leopardes, they adorne their heades with diuers ornamentes made of their owne heire, whiche hange

The Countrey of Sir H. Gvoyage.

downe before on both sides their brestes, others vse other kinde of dressing them selues like vnto the women of Egypt and Syria, these are of the elder sorte: and when they are married they weare diuers toyes, according to the vsage of the people of the East as well men as women.

Among whom wee sawe many plates of wrought coper, which they esteeme more then golde, whiche for the colour they make no accompt of, for that among all other it is counted the baleſt, they make most accompt of Azure and red. The things that they esteemed most of al those which we gaue them were bels, cristall of Azure colour, and other toies to hang at their eares or about their necke. They did not desire cloth of silke or of golde, muche lesse of any other sorte, neither cared they for thinges made of steele and Iron, which wee often shewed them in our armour whiche they made no wonder at, and in beholding them they onely asked the arte of making them: the like they did at our glasses, which whē the beheldē, they sodainely laught and gaue them vs againe. They are very liberal for they giue that which they haue, we became great friendes with these, and one day wee entred into the hauen with our shippe, where as before wee rode a league of at sea by reason of the contrary weather. They came in great companies of their small boates vnto the ship with their faces all be paintēd with diuers colours, shewing vs ẏ it was a signe of ioy, bringing vs of their victuals, they made signes vnto vs where wee might safest ride in the hauen for the safegarde of our shippe keeping still our companie: and after we were come to an Ancker, we bestowed fifteene dayes in prouiding our selues many necessary things, whether euery day the people repayred to see our ship bringing their wiues with them, whereof they are very ielous: and they themselues entring abrode the shippe and stayinge there a good space, caused their wiues to stay in their boates, and for al the intreatie we could make, offering to giue them diuers things, we could neuer obtaine that they would suffer them to come abrode our ship. And oftentimes one of the two kings comming with his queene, and many gentlemen for their pleasure to see vs, they all stayed on ẏ shore two hun-

dred paces frō vs, sending a final boate to giue vs intelligēce of their comming, saying they would come to see our shippe, this they did in token of safetye, and assoone as they had answere from vs they came immediatly, and hauing stayed a while to beholde it, they wondered at hearing the cryes and noyes of the marriners. The queene and her maids stayed in a very light boate, at an Iland a quarter of a leage off, while the king abode a long space in our ship vttering diuers conceites with geastures, viewing with great admiration, all the furniture of the shippe, demaunding the propertie of euerie thing perticularly. Ye tooke likewise great pleasure in beholding our apparell, and in tasting our meates, and so courteously taking his leaue departed. And sometimes our men staying for two or three dayes on a litle Ilande nere the ship for diuers necessaries, (as it is ẏ vse of seamen) he returned with 7. or 8. of his gentlemen to see what we did, and asked of vs oft times if wee meant to make any long aboade there, offering vs of their prouision: then the king drawing his bowe and running vp and downe with his gentlemen, made much sporte to gratifie our men, wee were oftentimes within the lande 5. or 6. leagues, which we found as pleasant as is possible to declare very apt for any kinde of husbandry of corne, wine and oyle: for that there are plaines 25. or 30. leagues broad, open and without any impediment of trees of such fruitfulnesse, that any seede being sowne therein, will bring forth most excellent fruite. We entred afterwards into the woods which wee found so great and thicke, that any armie were it neuer so great might haue hid it selfe therein, the trees whereof are okes, cipres trees, and other sortes vnknowen in Europe. We found Pomi appii, Damson trees, and Nutte trees, and many other sorts of fruits differing frō ours: there are beasts in great abundance, as hartes, deares, leopardes, and other kinds which they take with their nets & bowes which are their chiefe weapons, the arrowes whiche they vse are made with great cunning, and in steade of iron, they head them with fineriglio, w̄ iasper stone, & hard marble & other sharp stones which they vse in stead of iron to cut

trees,and make their boates of one whole piece of wood,making it hollowe with great and wonderfull art,wherein 10. or 12. men may bee cõmodiously, their oares are shorte and broad at the ende, and they vse them in the sea without anye daunger, and by maine force of armes,with as great speedinesse as they liste them selues. We sawe their houses made in circuler or rounde fourme 10. or 12. foote in compasse, made with halfe circles of timber, seperate one from another without any order of building, couered with mattes of strawe wrought cunningly together, which saue them from the winde and raine,and if they had the order of building and perfect skil of workmãship as we haue:there were no doubt but ẏ they would also make eftsoones great and stately buildings. For all the sea coastes are full of cleare and glistering stones,and alablaster, and therefore it is full of good hauens and harbarours for ships. They moue the foresaide houses from one place to another according to the commoditie of the place and season wherein they will make their aboade, and only taking of the couer,they haue other houses builded incontinent. The father and the whole familie dwell together in one house in great number: in some of them we sawe 25. or 30. persons. They feede as the other doe aforesaide of pulse whiche doe growe in that countrey with better order of husbandry thẽ in the others. They obserue in their sowing the course of the Moone and the rising of certaine starres, and diuers other customes spoken of by antiquitie. Moreouer,they liue by hunting and fishing. they liue long,and are seldome sicke, and if they chaunce to fall sicke at any time, they heale them selues with fire without any phisition, and they say that they die for very age. They are very pitiful and charitable towardes their neighbours, they make great lamentations in their aduersitie & in their miserie,the kinred recken vp all their felicitie,at their departure out of life,they vse mourning mixt wᵗ singing, wᵗ continueth for a lõg space. This is asmuch as wee coulde learne of them. This lande is situated in the Paralele of Rome,in 41. degrees ℔2. terces:

but

but somewhat more colde by accidentall cause and not of nature, (as I will declare vnto your highnesse els where) describing at this present the situation of the foresaide countrie, which lyeth East and West, I say that the mouth of the hauen lyeth open to the South halfe a league broade, and being entred within it betweene the East and the North, it stretcheth twelue leagues: where it wareth broder and broder, and maketh a gulfe aboute 20. leagues in compasse, wherein are fiue small Islandes very fruitfull and pleasant, full of hie and broade trees, among the which Ilandes, any great Nauie may ryde safe without any feare of tempest or other daunger. Afterwardes turning towards the South and in the entring into the Hauen on both sides there are most pleasant hilles, with many riuers of most cleere water falling into the Sea.

In the middest of this entraunce there is a rock of free stone growing by nature apt to builde any Castle or Fortresse there, for ỹ keeping of the hauen. The fift of May being furnished with all thinges necessarie, we departed from ỹ said Coast keeping along in the sight thereof, & we sayled 150 leagues finding it all wayes after one manner: but the lande somewhat higher with certaine mountaines all which beare a shewe of minerall matter, wee sought not to lande there in any place, because the weather serued our turne for sayling: but wee suppose that it was like to the former, the Coast ranne Eastward for the space of fiftie leagues. And trending afterwardes the North, wee founde another lande high full of thicke woods, the trees whereof were firres, Cipresses and such like as are wont to growe in colde Countries. The people differ much from the other, & looke how much the former seemed to be courteous and gentle: so much were these full of rudenesse and ill manners, and so barbarous that by no signes that euer wee coulde make, wee could haue any kinde of trafficke with them. They cloth thẽselues with Beares skinnes and Leopardes and sealles and other beastes skinnes. Their foode as farre as wee coulde per-

ceiue, repayring often vnto their dwellings wee suppose to bee by hunting and fishing, and of certaine fruites, which are a kinde of rootes, which the earth yeeldeth of her owne accord. They haue no graine, neither sawe wee any kinde of signe of tyllage, neither is the lande, for the barrennes therof apt to beare frute or seed. If at any time we desired by exchaunge to haue any of their commodities, they vsed to come to the Sea shore vpon certaine craggie rocks, and wee standing in our Boats, they let downe with a roye what it pleased them to giue vs, crying continually that wee should not approch to the lande, demanding immediately the exchange taking nothing but kniues, fishookes and tooles to cut withall, neither did they make any account of our curtesie. And when we had nothing left to exchange with them, when we departed from them the people shewed all signes of discourtesie and disdaine, as was possible for any creature to inuent. Wee were in despight of them two or three leagues within the lande, being in number 25. armed men of vs: And when wee went on shore they shot at vs with their bowes, making great outcries, and afterwardes fled into the woods. Wee founde not in this lande any thing notable, or of importance, sauing very great woods and certaine hilles, they may haue some mynerall matter in them, because wee sawe many of thē haue beadstones of Copper hanging at their eares. We departed from thence keeping our course North East along the coaste, which wee founde more pleasant champion and without woods, with high mountaines within the lande continuing directly along the coast for the space of fiftie leagues, wee discouered 32. Ilelandes lying all neare the lande, being small and pleasant to the viewe, high and hauing many turnings and windings betwene them, making many fayre harborroughes and chanels as they doe in the goulfe of Venice in Saluonia, and Dalmatia, wee had no knowledge or acquaintance with the people: wee suppose they are of the same maners and nature that the others are. Sayling Northeast for the space of 150. leagues we approched

ched to the lande that in times past was discouered by the Britons, which is in fiftie degrees. Hauing now spent all our prouision and victuals, and hauing discouered about 700. leagues and more of newe Countries, and being furnished with Water and Wood wee concluded to returne into Fraunce.

Touching the religion of this people, which wee haue founde for want of their language we could not vnderstand neither by signes nor gesture that they had any religion or lawe at all, or that they did acknowledge any first cause or mouer, neither that they worship the heauen or starres the Sunne or Moone or other Planets, and much lesse whether they bee idolaters, neither coulde wee learne whether that they vsed any kinde of Sacrifices or other adorations, neither in their villages haue they any Temples or houses of prayer. We suppose that they haue no religion at all, and ỳ they liue at their owne libertie. And ỳ all this proceedeth of ignorance, for that they are very easie to bee persuaded: and all that they see vs Christians doe in our diuine seruice they did the same with the like imitation as they sawe vs to doe it.

The discouerie of the Isles of Frisland, Iseland, Engroueland, Estotiland, Drogeo and Icaria, made by M. Nicolas Zeno, Knight, and M. Antonio his brother.

IN the yere of our Lord 1200. There was in the Citie of Venice a famous Gentleman, named M. Marino Zeno, who for his great vertue and singular wisedome, was called and elected gouernour in certain common wealthes of Italy, in the administration whereof hee bore himselfe so discreetly, that hee was beloued of all men, and his name greatly reuerenced of those that neuer knewe or sawe his person. And among sundrie his worthie workes, this is recorded of him, that hee pacified certaine greeuous ciuile dissentions that arose among the Cittzens of Verona: whereas otherwise if by his graue aduise and great diligence, they had not beene preuented, the matter was likely to breake out in hot broiles of warre. Hee was the first Agent that the common wealth of Venice kept in Constantinople in the yeere 1205. *quando n'era patrona, conli baroni frãcesi.* This Gentleman had a sonne named M. Pietro, who was the father of the Duke Rinieri, which Duke dying with out issue, made his heyre M. Andrea, the sonne of M. Marco his brother. This M. Andrea was captaine generall and Procurator, a man of great reputation for many rare partes, that were in him. He had a sonne M. Rinieri, a worthie Senatour and prudent Councellour: Of whom descende M. Pietro Generall of the league of the Christians against the Turkes, who was called Dragon, for that in his armes hee bare a Dragon. Hee was father to M. Carlo the famous Procurator and Generall against the Genowayes in those

Podesta.

those cruel warres, when as almost all the chiefe princes of Europe did oppugne and seek to ouerthrow our Empire and libertie, where by his great valiancie and prowesse like an other Furius Camillus, he deliuered his Countrie from the present perill it was in, being readie to become a pray & spoyle vnto the enemie, wherefore hee was afterwarde surnamed, the Lion, and for an eternall remembrance of his forsitude and valiant exploits he gaue the Lion in his armes. M. Carlo had two brethren, M. Nicolo, the knight & Antonio, the father M. Dragon, of whom issued M. Caterino, the father of M. Pietro, this M. Pietro had sonnes M. Caterino, that dyed the last yeere, M. Francisco, M. Carlo, M. Battista, and M. Vincenzo. That M. Caterino was father to M. Nicolo, that is yet liuing. Now M. Nicolo, the knight, being a man of great courage and very nobly minded, after this foresaide warre of Genoua, that troubled so our predecessours, entred into a wonderfull great desire and fansie to see the fashions of the world, and to trauaile, and to acquaint himselfe with the manners of sundry nations & learne their languages, whereby afterwards vpõ occasions hee might be ỹ better able to do seruice to his coũtrie & purchase to himselfe credite & honor. Wherfore hee caused a shippe to bee made & hauing furnished her at his proper charges (as hee was very wealthie) hee departed out of our Seas & passing the straites of Gibralterra, he sailed for certaine dayes vpon ỹ Ocean keeping his course stil to ỹ Northwards, w̃ intent to see England and Flaunders. Where being assaulted in those Seas by a terrible tempest, was so tossed for the space of many dayes with the Sea and winde that hee knewe not where hee was, till at length hee discouered lande, and not beeing able any longer to sustaine the violence of the tempest the ship was cast away vpon the Isle of Friseland. The men were saued, and most part of the goods that were in the Ship. And this was in the yeere 1380. The inhabitants of the Iland came running in great multitudes w̃ weapons to set vpon M. Nicolo and his men, who beeing sore wether beaten and ouerlaboured at Sea, and not knowing in what

The ship of M. N. Zeno cast away vpon Friseland in anno. 1380.

part of the worlde they were, were not able to make any resistaunce at all, much lesse to defende them selues couragiously, as it behooued them in such dangerous case. And they shoulde haue beene doubtlesse very discourteously entreated and cruelly handeled, if by good hap there had not been hard by the place a Prince with armed people. Who understanding, that there was euen at that present a great ship cast away vpon the Iland, came running at the noyse and outeries that they made against our poore Mariners, and driuing away the inhabitants, spake in latine and asked them what they were and from whence they came, and perceiuing ẏ they were Italians, & all of one Countrie, he was surprised with marueilous great ioy. Wherefore promising thẽall, that they shoulde receiue no discourtesie, and that they were come into a place where they shoulde bee well vsed and very welcome, he tooke them into his protection vpon his faith. This was a great Lord and possessed certaine Ilands called Porland, lying one the Southside of Frisland being ẏ richest and most populous of all those partes, his name was Zichmni: & beside the said little Ilands, he was Duke of Sorani, lying within the land towards Scotland. Of these North partes I thought good to draw the copie of a Sea carde, which amongest other antiquities, I haue in my house, which although it be rotten through many yeres: yet it falleth out indifferent well, and to those that are delighted in these things, it may serue for some light to the vnderstanding of that, which without it cannot so easily be conceiued. Zichmni being Lorde of those Seignories (as is said) was a very warlike and baliant man & aboue al things famous in Sea causes. And hauing this yeere before giuen the ouerthrowe to the king of Norway, who was Lord of the Ilande, beeing desirous to winne fame by feates of armes, was come on land with his mẽ to giue the attẽpt, for ẏ winning of Frisland, which is an Iland much bigger then Ireland. Wherefore seeing that M. Nicolo was a mã of iudgement and discretion, and very expert both in Sea matters and martiall affaires, hee gaue him commission to goe aboord his naue with all his men, charging the captaine to

A foraine prince hapning to be in Frisland wt armed men. When M Zeno suffered shipwrack, there came vnto him and spake latin.

Zichmni prince of Porland or Duke of Zorani.

Frisland the king of Norwayes.

honour him and in all things to vse his counsaile. This Nauie of Zichmni was of thirteene vessels, wherof two only were with oares, the rest small barkes, and one ship, with the which they sayled to the Westwardes and with little paines wonne Ledouo and Ilose and diuers other small Ilandes, and turning into a bay called Sudero, in the hauen of the towne named Sanestol they tooke certaine small Barks laden with salt fish. And heere they founde Zichmni, who came by land with his armie conquering all the countrie as he went, they staied here but a while but held on their course to the Westwards till they came to the other Cape of the goulfe or bay, then turning againe they found certaine Ilelandes and broken landes which they reduced all vnto the Seignorie and possession of Zichmni. These Seas for as much as they sayled, were in maner nothing but sholds and rocks, in sort that if M. Nicolo and the venetian mariners had not beene their Pilots, the whole Fleete in iudgement of all that were in it, had been cast away, so small was ꝑ skill of Zichmnis men in respect of ours, who had been trained vp in the art and practise of nauigation all the daies of their life. Now the Fleete hauing doone such things, (as is declared) ꝑ Captaine by the counsel of M. Nicolo, determined to goe a lande at a towne called Bondendon, to vnderstande what successe Zichmni had in his warres, where they heard to their great content, that he had fought a great battaile and put to flight the armie of his enemie: by reason of which victorie they sent Embassadours from all partes of the Ilande to yeeld the countrie vp into his handes, taking down their enseignes in euery towne and castell: They thought good to stay in that place for his comming, being reported for certaine that he would bee there very shortly. At his comming there was great congratulatiõ and many signes of gladnes shewed, as wel for the victorie by lande as for that by Sea, for the which the venetians were honoured & extolled of all men, in such sort ꝑ there was no talke but of them, and of ꝑ great valour of M. Nicolo. Wherfore the Prince who was a great fauourer of valiant men and especially of those that

M. Zeno, made knight by Zichmni.

Ships laden with fish at Frisland: for Flaunders, Britaine, England, Scotland, Norway, and Denmark.

But not to bee proued that euer any came thēce.

A letter sent by master. M. Zeno from Friseland to his brother, M. Antonio in Venice.

End of the first letter.

could behaue them selues well at the Sea, caused M. Nicolo to bee brought before him, and after hauing commended him with many honourable speeches, and prayse his great industrie and dexterie of wit, by the which, he acknowledged himselfe to haue receiued an inestimable benefite as the saiuing of his Fleete and the winning of many places, he made him Knight, and rewarded his men with many riche and bountifull giftes: Then departing from thence they went in triumphing maner towardes Friseland, the chief Citie of ỹ Ilande, situate on the Southest side of the Isle, within a goulf, (as there are very many in that Iland). In this goulfe or bay there is such great abundance of fish taken, that many ships are laden therewith to serue Flaunders, Britaine, England, Scotland, Norway and Denmarke, and by this trade they gather great wealth.

And thus much is taken out of a letter, that M. Nicolo sent vnto M. Antonio his brother, requesting him that hee woulde seeke some meanes to come to him. Wherefore hee, who had as great desire to trauaile as his brother, bought a Ship, and directing his course that way, after hee had sayled a great while and escaped many dangers, hee arriued at length in safetie with M. Nicolo, who receiued him very ioyfully, for that hee was his brother not only in flesh and blood, but also in valour and good qualities. M. Antonio remained in Friselande and dwelt there for the space of fourteene yeeres, foure yeeres with M. Nicolo, and ten yeeres alone. Where they came into such grace and fauour with the Prince, that hee made M. Nicolo, Captaine of his Nauie, & with great preparation of warre they were sent forth for the enterprise of Estlande, which lyeth vpon the coaste betweene Friseland and Norway, where they did many dōmages, but hearing that the king of Norway was comming towardes them with a great Fleet, they departed vñ such a terrible flaw of wind ỹ they were driuē vpō certain sholdes. Where a great part of their ships were cast away, ỹ rest were saued vpō Grisland, a great Iland but vnhabited.

The

The king of Norway his fleete being taken with the same stoyme, did vtterly perishe in those seas. Whereof Zichmni hauing notice, by a shippe of his enemies, that was cast by chaunce vpon Grisland. Hauing repayred his fleete, and perceyuing him selfe noytherly neere vnto the Islandes, determined to set vpon Islande, which together with the rest was subiect to the king of Norway: But he founde the countrey so well fortified and defended, that his fleete beeing so small and very ill appointed both of weapons and men, hee was gladde to retire. And so hee left that enterprise without performing any thing at all, and in the same chanelles he assaulted ỹ other Iles called the Islands, which are seuen Talas, Broas, Iscant, Trans, Mimant, Dambere, & Bres, and hauing spoyled them all, hee built a fort in Bres, where he left M. Nicolo, with certaine small barkes and men and munition. And nowe thinking he had done well for this voyage, with those fewe shippes which were left hee returned into Frieslande. M. Nicolo remayning nowe in Bres determined vpon a time to goe forth and discouer lande, wherefore arming out their small barkes in the moneth of Iuly, he sayled to the Northwardes, and arriued in Engrouelande. Where he founde a monastery of Fryers of the order of the Predicators, and a Church dedicated to S. Thomas harde by a hill, that casteth forth fire, like Vesuuius and Etna. There is a fountayne of hot burning water with the whiche they heate the Churche of the monasterie and the Fryers chambers, it commeth also into the kitchen so boyling hotte, that they vse no other fire to dresse their meate, and putting their bread into brasse pottes without any water, it doeth bake as it were in a hot ouen. They haue also small gardens, couered ouer in the winter time, which being watered with this water are defended from the force of the snowe and colde, which in those parts being situate farre vnder the pole, is very extreeme, and by this meanes they produce flowers and fruites and herbes of sundrie sortes, euen as in other temperate countreys in their seasons in suche sorte that the rude and sauage people of those partes seeing these supernaturall

Engrouelande.

Preaching Frters of S. Thomas.

A notable ire.

pernaturall effectes doe take those Friers for Gods, and bring them many presentes as chickens, flesh and diuers other thinges, and haue them all in great reuerence as Lords. When the frost and snowe is great, they heate their houses in maner before said, and will by letting in the water or opening the windowes, temper the heate and colde at their pleasure. In ỹ buildings of the monastery they vse no other matter but that which is ministred vnto them by the fire, for they take the burning stones, that are cast out as it were sparkles or ceindres at the firie mouth of the hill, and when they are most enflamed, cast water vpon them, wherby they are dissolued and become excellẽt white lime and so tough that being contriued in building it lasteth for euer. And the very sparkles after the fire is out of them do serue in steede of stones to make walles and vautes: for being once colde they will neuer dissolue or breake except they be cut with some irõ toole, and the vautes that are made of them are so light that they need no sustentacle or proppe to holde them vp, and they wil endure continually very fayre and whole. By reason of these great commodities the friers haue made there so many buildings and walles, that it is a wonder to see. The couerts or roofes of their houses for the most part are made in this maner, first they rayse the wall vp to his full height, then they make it enclining or bowing in by litle and litle in forme of a vaute. But they are not greatly troubled with raine in those partes, for that, by reason of the pole or colde climate, the first snowe being falne it thaweth no more for the space of nine moneths, for so long dureth their winter. They feede of the flesh of wilde beastes & of fish, for where as the warme water falleth into the sea, there is a large and wide hauen, which by reason of the heate of the water, doeth neuer freeze all the winter, by meanes whereof there is suche concourse and flocks of sea foule and such aboundance of fishe, that they take thereof infinite multitudes, whereby they maintayne a great number of people rounde about whiche they keepe in continuale worke, both in building and taking of foules and fishe, and in a thousande other necessarie affaires and busines

about

about the monasterie.

Their houses are builte about the hill on euery side, in fourme rounde, and 25. foote broade, and in mounting vpwardes they goe narower and narower, leauing at the toppe a litle hole, whereat the ayre commeth in, to giue light to the house, and the flore of the house is so hot, that being within they feele no colde at all. Hither in the sommer time come many barkes from the Ilands there about, & from the Cape aboue Norway and from Trondon. And bring to the Friers al maner things that may be desired, taking in change thereof fishe which they drie in the sunne or in the colde, and skins of diuers kindes of beastes. For the which they haue wood to burne and timber verie artificially carued, and corne & cloth to make them apparell. For in change of the two foresayde commodities all the nations bordering rounde about them couet to trafficke with them, and so they without any trauell or expences haue that which they desire. To this monasterie resort Friers of Norway, of Suetia and of other countreys but the most part are of the Illandes. There are continually in that part many barkes, whiche are kept in there by reason of the sea being frozen, wayting for the season of the yeere to dissolue the Ice. The fishers boates are made like vnto a weuers shuttle, taking the skins of fishes, they fashiõ them with the bones of the same fishes, and sowing thẽ together in many doubles they make them so sure and substanciall, that it is miraculous to see, how in tempests they will shut thẽselues close within, and let the sea and winde carrie them, they care not whether, without any feare eyther of breaking or drowning. And if they chance to be driuen vpõ any rocks, they remaine sounde, without the least bruse in the worlde: And they haue as it were a sleeue in the bottome which is tied fast in ẏ middle, & when there cõmeth any water into their boat, they put it into the one halfe of ẏ sleeue, thẽ fastning ẏ ende of it w two peeces of wood and loosing ẏ band beneath they conuey the watsr forth of the boate: and this they doe as often as they haue occasion without any perill or impediment at all. Moreouer, the water of the monasterie being of sulphurious

Trade in sommer time from Trondon to S. Thomas friers in Ingrouelãd.

Resort of friers from Norway & Sueden, to the monasterie in Ingrouelande called S. Thõ.

or brimstone nature is conueyed into the lodginges of the principall Friers by certaine vessels of brasse, tinne or stone so hotte that it heateth the place as it were a stowe, not carrying with it any stinke or other noysome smell.

Besides this they haue another conueyance to bring hot water with a wall vnder the ground to the ende it should not freese, vnto the middle of the court, where it falleth into a great vessel of brasse, that standeth in the middle of a boyling fountayne, and this is to heate their water to drinke and to water their gardens, and thus they haue from the hill the greatest commodities that may be wished, and so these Fryers employ all their trauaile and studie for the most part in trimming their gardins and in making faire and beawtifull buildings and especially handsome and commodious, neyther are they destitute of ingenious and painefull artificers for the purpose, for they giue very large payment, and to them that bring them fruites and seedes they are very bountifull and giue they care not what. So that there is great resort of workemen and maisters in diuers faculties, by reason of the good gaines and large allowance that is there.

In the monastarie S. Thomas most of them speake the latin tongue. end of the two letter.

The most of them speake the Latin tongue, and especially the superiours and principalls of the monasterie. And this is as muche as is knowen of Engrouelande, which is all by the relation of M. Nicolo, who maketh also particular description of a riuer, that he discouered, as is to be seene in the carde that I drewe. And in the ende M. Nicolo not being vsed and acquainted with these cruell colde, fell sicke, and a litle while after returned into Frislande, where he dyed. He left behinde him in Venice two sonnes, M. Giouanni and M. Toma, who had two sonnes M. Nicolo, the father of the famous Cardinal Zeno, and M. Pietro of whom descended the other Zenos, that are liuing at this day.

M. Zeno died in Friselande.

Now M. Nicolo being dead, M. Antonio succeeded him both in his goods and in his dignities & honour, and albeit he attempted diuers wayes and made greate supplication hee coulde neuer obtaine licence to returne into his Countrey. For Zichmni had determined to make him selfe Lorde of

the

the sea. Wherefore vsing alwayes the counsaile and seruice of M. Antonio, hee sent hym with some small barkes to the Westwardes, for that towardes those partes some of his fishermen had discouered certaine Ilandes verye rich and populous, whiche discouerie, M. Antonio in a letter to his brother M. Carlo, recounteth from point to point in this manner, sauing that wee haue chaunged some olde woordes, leauing the matter entire as it was

3. letter beginneth from the second brother M. Antonio out of Frisslande, to his other brother in Venice named Master Carlo.

Sixe and twentie yeeres agoe there departed foure Fisher boates, the whiche a mightie tempest arising, were tossed for the space of manye dayes verye desperately vpon the Sea, when at length the tempeste ceassyng and the weather waxing fayre they discouered an Ilande called Estotilande, lying to the Westwardes aboue 1000. Miles from Frisslande, vpon the whiche one of the boates was caste awaye, and sixe men that were in it were taken of the inhabitauntes and brought vnto a verye fayre and populous Citie, where the kyng of the place sent for manye interpreters, but there was none coulde bee founde that vnderstoode the language of the fishermen, excepte one that spake Latin, who was also cast by chaunce vpon the same Ilande, who in the behalfe of the kyng asked them what Countreymen they were, and so vnderstanding theyr case, rehearsed it vnto the King, who willed that they shoulde tarrie in the Countrey, wherefore they obeyinge his commaundement for that they coulde not otherwise doe, dwelte fiue yeeres in the Ilande, and learned the language, and one of them was in diuers partes of the Ilande, and reporteth that it is a verye riche Countrey, abounding with all the commodities of the worlde, and that it is little lesse than Isslande, but farre more fruitefull, hauing in the middle thereof a verye hyghe mountayne, from the whiche there riseth foure Riuers, that passe throughe the whole Countrey.

6. Fisher men taken.

Fishermen of Frisslande spake latin.

Sixe were 5. yeeres in Estotilande.

One of the fishers of Frisland reporteth of Estotilande.

Estotilande rich: abounding with al the commoditie of the worlde.

The inhabitantes are very wittie people, and haue all the artes and faculties as wee haue: and it is credible, that in time past they haue had trafficke with our men, for he

saide that he sawe latin bookes in the Kings library, whiche they at this present doe not vnderstande, they haue a peculiar language and letters or caracters to them selues. They haue mines of all manner of mettals, but especially they abounde with golde. They haue their trade in Engroueland from whence they bring skins and brimstone and pitch: And he saith that to ỹ southwards, there is a great populous cõtrey very rich of gold. They sowe corne and make bere or ale, which is a kind of drinke that the north people doe vse as we do wine. They haue mightie great woods, they make their buildings with wals, and there are many cities & castels. They build smal barkes and haue sayling, but they haue not the lodestone nor know not the vse of the cõpasse. Wherfore these fishers were had in great estimatiõ, insomuch that the king sent them with 12. barkes to the southwardes to a countrey whiche they call Drogio: but in their voyage they had suche countrary weather, that they thought all to haue perished in the sea, but yet escaping that cruell death, they fel into another more cruel. For they were takẽ in the countrey and the most parte of them eaten by the Sauage people, which feede vpon mans flesshe, as the sweetest meate in their iudgementes that is.

Abundance of golde.

Trade from estotiland, to Engroueland.

Skins, brimstone and pitche.

Gold, corne, and bere, &c.

Many cities and castles.

A countrey called Drogio.

But that fisher with his fellowes shewyng them the maner of taking fishe with nettes, saued their liues: and woulde goe euery day a fishing to the sea and in fresh riuers, and take great aboundance of fish and giue it to the chiefe men of the countrey, whereby hee got him selfe so great fauour, that hee was very well beloued and honoured of euery one.

The 6. fishermẽ of Frisland only saued, by shewing the maner to take fishe.

The chiefest of the 6. fishers, specified before & his cõpanions

The fame of this man being spred abroad in the countrey, there was a Lorde thereby that was verie desirous to haue him with him, and to see howe hee vsed his miraculous arte of catching fishe, in so muche that he made warre with the other Lorde, with whom hee was before, and in the ende preuayling, for that hee was more mightie and a better warriour, the fisherman was sent vnto him with the rest of his company. And for the space of thirteene yeeres that hee dwelt in those partes, he saith, that he was sent in this order

In the space of 13. yeres in Drogio.

to

to moze than 25. Lozdes, foz they had continuall warre amongest themselues, this Lozde with that Lozd and he with an other, onely to haue him to dwell with them, so that wandring vp and downe the Countrey without any certayne abode in one place, hee knewe almost all those partes. He saith that it is a very great countrey and as it were a newe wozld, the people very rude and boyde of all goodnesse, they goe all naked so that they are miserablie vexed with colde, neyther haue they the wit to couer their bodies w beasts skins, wthey take in huntinge, they haue no kind of metal, they liue by hūting, they carie certain lances of wood, made sharp at ẏ point, they haue bowes, the stringes whereof are made of beastes skinnes: They are a very fierce people, they make cruell warres one with another, and eate one an other, they haue gouernours and certayne lawes verye diuers amongest them selues. But the farther to the South westwardes, the moze ciuility there is, the ayze being somewhat temperat, so that there they haue Cities, and temples to Idolls, wherein they sacrifice men and afterwardes eate them, they haue there some knowledge and vse of gold and siluer.

Sent to moze then 25. lozds, which continually warred amongst thē selues foz the same fisherman.

Nowe this fisher hauing dwelt so many yeeres in those countreys, purposed if it were possible to returne home into his countrey, but his companions dispayring euer to see it agayne, let him goe in Gods name, they kept them selues, where they were. Wherefoze hee bidding them farewel, fledde through the woods towardes Drogio, and was verie well receiued of the Lozde that dwelt next to that place who knewe him and was a great enemie of the other Lozde, and so running from one Lozde to an other, being those by whō hee had passed befoze, after long time and many trauelles he came at length to Drogio where hee dwelt thzee yeeres. When as good foztune he heard by the inhabitantes, ẏ there were certaine boates arriued vpon ẏ coast, wherfoze entring into good hope to accōplish his intent, he went to ẏ sea side & asking thē of what countrey they were, they answered of Estotiland whereat he was exceeding glad, and requested that they

3. yeres in Drogio.

Where by hapy arriued certaine boates from Estotiland.

He became interpreter for ỳ men that arriued at Drogeo in the boates of Estotilande.

they woulde take him into them, whiche they did verye willingly, and for that hee had the language of the Countrey and there was none of them coulde speake it they vsed him for their interpreter.

Afterwards hee frequ nted that trade with them in such sort, that he became very rich. And so furnished a bark of his owne & returned to Frislande where hee reported the story to his Lorde Zichmni.

And after that hee frequented that trade with them, in such sorte that hee became verye riche and so furnishing out a barke of his owne hee returned into Frislande, where hee made reporte vnto this Lorde of that welthie Countrey. And hee is throughly credited because of the Mariners, who approoue many straunge thinges, that hee reporteth to bee true. Wherefore this Lorde is resolued to sende me foorth with a fleete towardes those partes, and there are so manye that desire to goe in the voyage, for the noueltie and strangenesse of the thing, that I thinke we shall be very strongly appointed, without any publike expence at all. And this is the tenor of the letter before mentioned which I haue heere set downe, to giue intelligence of an other voyage, that M. Antonio made, being set out with many Barkes and men, notwithstanding hee was not captaine as hee had thought at the first hee shoulde, for Zichmni went in his owne person: & concerning this matter I haue a letter in forme as followeth. Our great preparation for the voyag of Estotiland, was begun in an vnluckie houre, for three dayes before our departure, the fisherman died, that shoulde haue been our guid: notwithstanding this Lorde woulde not giue ouer the enterprize, but in steade of the fisherman tooke certayne Marriners that returned out of the Iland with him, and so making our naugation to the Westwards, we discouered certayne Ilandes subiect to Frislande, and hauing passed certayne shelues we stayed at Ledouo for the space of 7. dayes to refreshe our selues, and furnish the fleete with necessarie prouision. Departing from hence we arriued the first of July at the Ile of Ilofe, and for that the winde made for vs, wee stayed not there, but passed forth, & being vpon the maine sea, there arose immediatly a cruell tempest wherewith for eight dayes space wee were miserably vexed, not knowing where wee were, and a great part of the Barkes

were

end of 3. letter.

4. letter beginneth frō M. Antonio in Frisland, to his brother Carls in Venice.

The fisherman dead that should haue bin guid & interpreter.

Certaine marriners taken in his steede which came with him frō Estotiland.

July. Ile Ilofe.

were cast away, afterwarde waring faire wether we gathered vp the broken peeces of the Barkes that were lost, and sayling with a prosperous winde wee discouered lande at West. Wherefore keeping our course directly vpon it, wee arriued in a very good and safe harborough, where wee sawe an infinite companie of people readie in armes, come running very furiously to the water side, as it were for defence of the Ilande. Wherefore Zichimni causing his men to make signes of peace vnto them, they sent tenne men vnto vs that coulde speake tenne languages, but wee coulde vnderstande none of them, except one that was of Island. He being brought before our Prince and asked, what was the name of the Iland, and what people inhabited it, and who gouerned it, answered, that the Iland was called Icaria, and that all the kinges that had raigned there, were called Icari, after the name of the first king of that place, which as they say was the sonne of Dedalus king of Scotland, who conquering that Iland, left his sonne there for king, and left thē those lawes that they retaine to this present, and after this, he desiring to sayle further, in a great tempest that arose, was drowned, wherefore for a memoriall of his death, they call those Seas yet, the Icarian Sea, and the kings of the Iland Icari, and for that they were contented with that state, which god had giuē them, neither whold they alter one iote of their lawes and customes, they would not receiue any straunger, wherefore they requested our Prince, that hee woulde not seeke to violate their lawes, which they had receiued from that king of worthie memorie and obserued very duly to that present: which if hee did attempt, it woulde redounde to his manifest destruction, they being all resolutely bent rather to leaue their life, than to loose in any respect the vse of their lawes. Notwithstanding, that wee should not thinke they did altogether refuse the conuersation and trafficke with other men, they tolde vs for conclusion that they would willingly receiue one of our men, and preferre him to be one of ỹ chiefe amongest them, only to learne my language the Italian tongue, and to bee enformed of our maners and customes,

Zichmni his first discouery of the Iland Icaria.

Infinit number of people in armes.

An Island man in Icaria.

Icaria Ilande.

All the kings ỹ had raigned in that Iland were called Icari after the name of the first king of ỹ place: which they say was the sonne of Dedalus king of Scots.

Icarius drowned.

Icarian Sea.

The people of Icaria desirous of the Italian tongue.

Hauing in that Iland 10. men of ten sundry nations.

stones, as they had alreadie receiued those other tenne of tenne sundrie nations, that came vnto their Iland. To these things our Prince answered nothing at all, but causing his men to seeke some good harborough, hee made signes as though he would come on land, and saying round about the Iland, hee espied at length a harborough on the East side of the Ilande, where he put in with all his Fleet, the mariners went on land to take in wood and water, which they did with as great speede as they coulde, doubting least they shoulde be assaulted by the inhabitants as it fell out in deed, for those that dwelt there abouts, making signes vnto the other with fire and smoke, put themselues presently in armes and the other comming to them, they came al running downe to the Sea side vpon our men, with bowes and arrowes and other weapons, that many were slaine and diuers sore wounded. And we made signes of peace vnto them, but it was to no purpose, for their rage encreased more and more, as though they had fought for life and liuing. Wherefore wee were forced to depart and to sayle along in a great circuite about

Infinite multitude of armed men in Icaria.

the Iland, being alwaies accompanied vpon the hil tops and the Sea coast with an infinite multitude of armed men, and so doubling the Cape of the Iland towardes the North, wee found many great sholdes amongst the which for the space of ten daies we were in continual danger of loosing our whole Fleete, but that it pleased God all that while to send vs very faire weather. Wherefore proceeding on till we came to ꝑ East cape, we sawe the inhabitaunts still on the hill tops & by the Sea coast keepe with vs, and in making great outcries & shooting at vs a farre of they vttered their olde spitefull affection towards vs. Wherefore we determined to stay in some safe harborough, and see if we might speak once againe with the Islander, but our determination was frustrate, for the people more like vnto beastes than men, stood continually in armes w intent to beat vs backe, if we should come on lande. Wherefore Zichmni seeing hee coulde not preuaile and thought if hee shoulde haue perseuered and

followed

followed obstinately his purpose, their victuals would haue failed them, hee departed with a faire winde and sailed sixe dayes to the Westwards, but the winde chaunging to the Southwest and the Sea waxing rough wee sayled 4. dayes with the wind in the powpe and at length discouering land, wee were afraide to approch neere vnto it, being the Sea growen, and we not knowing what lande it was, but God prouided for vs, that the winde ceasing there came a greate calme. Wherefore some of our companie rowing to land with oares, returned and brought vs word to our great comfort, that they had founde a very good Countrie and a better harborough, vpon which newes wee towed our ships & smal Barkes to land, and being entred into the harborough, wee sawe a farre of a great mountaine, ỹ cast forth smoke, which gaue vs good hope that we shoulde finde some inhabitantes in ỹ Iland, neither would Zichmni rest, although it were a great way of, but send a 100. good souldiers to search the Countrie and bring report what people they were that inhabited it, and in the meane time they tooke in wood & water for the prouision of the Fleete, and catcht great store of fishe and Sea foule and founde such abundance of birdes egges that our men that were halfe famished, were filled withall. Whiles we were riding here, began the moneth of June, at which time the ayre in the Iland was so temperate and pleasant as is impossible to expresse, but when we coulde see no people at all, wee suspected greatly that this pleasant place was desolate and vnhabtied. Wee gaue name to the hauen calling it Trim, and the point that stretched out into ỹ sea wee called Capo di Trim. The 100. souldiers that were sent forth, eight dayes after returned, and brought worde that they had been through the Iland and at the mountaine and that the smoke was a naturall thing proceeding from a great fire that was in the bottome of the hill, and that there was a spring from which issued, a certaine matter like pitch, which ran into the Sea, and that there aboutes dwelt greate multitudes of people half wilde, hiding thẽselues in caues of

Zichmni departed from Icaria Westwards.

Sight of land.

100. good souldiers sent by Zichmni to search the countrie (which countrie is not named.)

June.

The ayre so temperate & sweete, as impossible to expresse it.

Hauen Trim.

Capo di Trim.

The 100. souldiers returned, which had been through the Iland, report what they sawe and found.

the grounde, of small stature, and very fearefull, for as soone as they sawe them they fled into their holes, and that there was a great riuer and a very good harborough. Zichimni being thus enformed, and seeing that it had a holsome and pure ayre, and a very fruitefull soyle and fayre riuers with sundrie other commodities, fell into such liking of the place, that hee determined to inhabite it, and build there a Citie. But his people being weary and faint with their long and tedious trauaile began to tumult and murmure, saying that they woulde returne into their Countrie, for that the winter was at hand, and if they entred into the harborough, they should not be able to come out againe before the next Sommer. Wherefore hee retaining only the Barkes with Oares and such as were willing to stay with him, sent all the rest with the shippes backe againe, and willed that I, (though vnwilling) should bee their Captaine. I therefore departing, sayled for the space of twentie dayes to the Eastwards without sight of any land, then turning my course towardes Southeast in fiue dayes I discouered lande and founde my selfe vpon the Ile of Neome and knowing the Countrie, I perceiued I was past Islande: wherefore taking in some fresh victuals of the inhabitants being subiect to Zichmni, I sayled with a faire winde in three dayes to Frisland, where the people, who thought they had lost their Prince, because of his long absence, in this our voyage, receiued vs very ioyfully.

Zichmni determining to remaine in the new discouered land, kept with him his barkes with oares, and mē that were willing & sent the rest away homewards: Appointing Antonio Zeno chiefe captaine of them.

Antonio Zeno had sight of Neome, and knewe him selfe past Island.

Ende of the 4. letter.

A peece of a 5. letter.

What followed after this letter I know not but by coniecture, which I gather out of a peece of an other letter, which I will set downe heere vnderneath: That Zichmni builte a towne in the port of the Iland that hee discouered, and that hee searched the Countrie very diligently and discouered it all, and also the riuers on both sides of Engroueland, for that I see it particularly described in the Sea card, but the discourse or narration is lost. The beginning of the letter is thus. Concerning those things that you desire to knowe of mee, as of the men and their manners and customes, of the beastes and the Countries adioyning, I

Beginning of the letter.

haue

haue made thereof a particular booke, which by Gods helpe I will bring with mee: Wherein I haue described the countrie, the monstrous fishes, ẏ customes and lawes of Frisland, Island, Estland, the kingdome of Norway, Estotiland, Drogio, and in the ende the life of master Nicolo, the knight our brother, with the discouerie which he made and of Groland. I haue also written the life and acts of Zichmni, a Prince as worthie of immortall memory, as any that euer liued, for his great valiancie and singuler humanitie, wherein I haue described the discouerie of Engroueland on both sides, and the Citie that hee builded. Therefore I will speake no further hereof in this letter, hoping to be with you very shortly, and to satisfie you in sundrie other thinges by worde of mouth. All these letters were written by master Antonio to master Carlo his brother. And it greeueth me, that the booke and diuers other writinges concerning these purposes, are miserably lost: For I beeing but a child, when they came to my handes, and not knowing what they were, (as the manner of children is) I tore them, and rent them in peeces, which now I cannot call to remembrance but to my greef. Notwithstanding, that the memory of so many good thinges shoulde not bee lost: whatsoeuer I could get of this matter, I haue disposed and put in order, in the former discourse, to the ende that this age might bee partly satisfied, to ẏ which wee are more beholden for the great discoueries made in those partes, then to any other of the time past, beeing most studious of the relations of the discoueries of strange Countries, made by the great mindes, and industry of our auncetours.

This discourse was collected by *Ramusio* Secretarie to the state of Venice, (or by the Printer Tho. Giunti.)

Iohn Baptista Ramusio, died in *Padua* in Iuly, 1557.

¶ The true and last discouerie of Florida made by Captaine Iohn Ribault in the yeere 1562. *Dedicated to a great noble man of Fraunce,* and translated into Englishe by one Thomas Hackit.

WHere as in the yeere of our Lorde God 1562. it pleased God to moue your honour, to choose and appoint vs, to discouer and view a certaine long coast of the West India, from the head of the lande called Lafloryda, drawing towarde the North part, vnto the head of Britons, distant from the saide head of Lafloryda 900. leagues, or there about: to the ende wee might certifie you & make true report of the temperature, fertilitie, Portes, Hauens, Riuers, and generally of all the commodities that bee seene and found in that lande, and also to learne what people were there dwelling, which thing you haue long time agoe desired, beeing stirred thereunto by this zeale: That Fraunce might one day through newe discoueries haue knowledge of strange Countries, and also thereof to receiue (by meanes of continuall trafficke) riche and inestimable commodities, as other nations haue done by taking in hand such farre nauigations, both to the honor and prowes of their kings and princes, & also to the encrease of great profite and vse to their common wealthes, countries & dominions, which is most of all wout cõparisõ to be consydered & esteemed. It seemeth well ỹ yee haue been stirred hereunto euen of God aboue, & led to it by the hope & desire you haue that a number of brutishe people and ignorant of Iesus Christe, may by his grace come to some knowledge of his holy Lawes and Ordinaunces. So therefore it seemeth that it hath pleased God by his godly prouidence to

reserue the care which hee hath had of their saluation vntill this time, and will bring them to our faith, at the time by himselfe alone foreseene and ordeined. For if it were needfull to shewe howe many from time to time haue gone about to finde out this great lande, and to inhabite there: who nevertheless haue alwaies failed & beene put by from their intention and purpose; some by feare of shipwrackes, and some by great windes and tempestes that droue them backe to their merueilous griefe. Of the which there was one a very famous stranger named Sebastian Gabota an excellent Pylot sent thither by king Henry, the yeere 1498. and many others, who neuer could attaine to any habitation nor take possession thereof one only foote of grounde, nor yet approche or enter into these parties and faire riuers into the which God hath brought vs. Wherefore (my Lorde) it may bee well saide that the liuing God hath reserued this great lande for your poore seruantes and subiectes, as well to the ende they might bee made great ouer this poore people, & rude nation: as also to approue the former affection which our kings haue had vnto this discouerie.

Sebastian Gabota.

For ỹ late king Frances the first (of happie memorie) a Prince endued with excellent vertues. The yeere 1524. sent a famous and notable man a Florentine, named Master Iohn Verarzan, to search and discouer the West parts as farre as might be: Who departing from Deepe with two vessels little differing from the making and burden of these two Pinnaces of the kinges, which your honour hath ordeined for this present nauigation. In the which land they haue found the eleuation the Pole, an viii. degrees. The Countrie (as he writeth) goodly, fruitfull, and so good temperature, that it is not possible to haue a better: beeing then as yet of no mã seen, nor discerned. But they being not able to bring to passe at this first voyage that which he had intended, nor to arriue in any Port, by reason of sundrie incõueniences (which cõmõly happẽ) were cõstrained to return into Fraunce: where after his arriuall, he neuer ceassed to make

Iohn Verarzã.

suite

suice vntill he was sent thither againe, where at last he died. The which occasion gaue small courage to sende thither agayne, and was the cause that this laudable enterprise was left of, vntill the yeere 1534. at which time his Maiestie, (desiring alwayes to enlarge his kingdome, countreys and dominions, and the aduauncing and ease of his subiectes) sent thither a Pilote of S. Mallowes, a Briton, named James Cartier, well seene in the art and knowledge of Nauigation, & especially of the North parts, commonly called the new land, led by some hope to find passage that waies to the south seas: Who being not able at his first going to bring any thing to passe, that he pretẽded to do: was sent thither againe the yeere following, and likewise Le sire Hemerall, and as it is well knowen they did inhabite and builde, and plant the kings armies in the North part a good way in the lande, as farre as Tauadu and Ochisaon. Wherefore (my Lord) trust iustly that a thing so commendable and worthie to bee with good courage attempted, that God woulde guid and keepe vs, desiring alwayes to fulfill your commaundement. James Cartier

When wee had done your businesse, and made our preparations the xviii. day of Februarie 1562 through the fauour of God wee departed with our two vessels out of the hauen of Claue de Grace into the road Caur: and the next day hoysted vp saile (the winde being in ẏ East) which lasted so fiue daies, that we coulde not arriue at the nauch that is from betweene the coast of Briton and Englande and the Iles of Surlinos and Wiskam: So that the Winde blowing with great fury and tempest out of the West, and West Southwest, altogether contrary to our way and course, and all that we could doe was to none effecte, besides the great daunger of breaking of our Mastes, as also to be hindered in our other labours. Wherefore as well to shonne many other inconueniences, which might follow to the preiudice and breach of our voyage, hauing regard also to the likely daunger of death, ẏ some of our gentlemen and souldiers being troubled with feuers and whot sicknesses, might haue fallen into: as also

for other considerations, wee thought good to fall into the road of Brest in Britaine, to set there our sick folke on land, and suffer the tempest to passe. From whence (after wee had taried there two dayes) wee returned againe to Seawarde to followe our nauigation, so that (my Lorde) albeit the winde was for a long season very much against vs, and troublesome: yet at the ende (God giuing vs through his grace and accustomed goodnesse a meetely fauourable winde) I determined with all diligence to preue a newe course which hath not beene yet attempted: trauersing the Seas of Dction 1800. Leagues at the least, whiche in deed is the true and short course that hereafter must be kept, to the honour of our nation, reiecting the old conserued opinion, which to long time hath beene holden as true.

Which is, as it was thought a thing impossible to haue the winde at East, Northeast, and keepe the race and course wee enterprised, but that we shoulde be driuen towarde the region of Affrica, the Iles of Canaria, Madera, and other landes there aboutes. And the cause why we haue beene the more prouoked and assured to take this new race, hath bin because that it seemed to euery one, that we might not passe nor goe in this Nauigation without the sight and touching of the Antillies and Lucaries, and there sojourne and take fresh waters and other necessaries, as the Spaniards doe in their voyage to new Spaine: wherof (thanked be God) we haue had no neede, nor entered the chanell of Roham: which hath bin thought impossible. Foreseeing also that it was not expedient for vs to passe through the Ilandes, as wel to shune many inconueniences that might happen in passing that way (wherof springeth nothing but innumerable quarrels, pleadings, cõfusions, and breach of al worthy enterprises, and goodly nauigations, whereof ensueth complaintes and odious questions betweene the subiectes of the king and his friends and alies) as also to the ende they might vnderstand, that in the time to come (God hauing shewed vs such graces, as these his wonderfull benefites firste shewed to the poore people of this so

goodly

goodly newe framing people, of so gentle a nature, and a countrey so pleasant and fruitefull, lacking nothing at all that may seeme necessarie for mans food) we would not haue to doe with their Ilandes, and other landes: which (for that they first discouered them) they keepe with much iclousie: trusting that if God will suffer the king (through your perswation) to cause some part of this incomparable countrey to be peopled and inhabited with such a number of his poore subiectes as you shall thinke good, there neuer happened in the memory of man so great and good commoditie to France as this, and (my Lorde) for many causes, whereof a man is neuer able to say or write to the ful, as vnder the assured hope that we haue alwayes had in executing vprightly that which I had receiued in charge of you, God woulde blesse our wayes and naugations. After we had constantly and with diligence in time conuenient determined vpon the way, wee shoulde haue thought it noysome and tedious to all our companie, if it had before bin knowē vnto any without tourning or wauering to or fro from their first ententiō. And notwithstanding that satan did often what he could to sowe many obstractes, troubles and lettes, according to his acustomed subtilties, so it is come to passe, that God by his onely goodnes hath giuen vs grace, to make the furthest arte and trauars of the seas, that euer was made in our memorie or knowledge, in longitude from the East to the West: and therefore was it commonly sayde both in Fraunce and Spaine, and also among vs, that it was impossible for vs safely to ariue thither, whither the Lord did conduct vs. Al which perswaded but of ignorance and lacke of attempting: which wee haue not bin afrayde to giue aduenture to proue. Albeit that all Mariuers Cardes doe set the Coastes with shipwrackes without portes or Riuers: which wee haue found otherwise as it followeth.

Thursday the last of Aprill at the breake of the day, wee discouered and clearely percepued a fayre Coast, stretchyng of a great length couered with an infinite number of

high

high and fayre trees, wee being not past 7. or 8. leagues from the shore, the countrey seeming vnto vs plaine without anye shewe of hils, and approching neerer within foure or fiue leagues of the land, we cast an ancker at ten fadome water, the bottome of the Sea being plaine with muche Ocias and fast holde on the South side, as farre as a certaine point or Cape situate vnder that Latitude of nine and twentie degrees and a halfe, which we haue named Cape Francois.

Wee coulde espie neither Riuer nor Bay, wherefore wee sent our Boates furnished with men of experience, to sounde and knowe the coast neere the shore: who returning to vs about one of the clock at after noone, declared that they had founde among other thinges viii. fadome of water at the harde bancke of the sea. Whereupon hauing diligently wayed vp our Anckers, and hoysted vp our sayles with wind at will, we sayled and vewed the coast all along with vnspeable pleasure, of the odorous smell and beawtie of the same. And because there appeared vnto vs no signe of any Porte, about the setting of the sunne we cast ancker againe: which done, we did behold to and fro the goodly order of the woods wherewith God hath decked euery way the sayd land. Then perceiuing towarde the North a leaping and a breaking of the water, as a streame falling out of the lande into the Sea. For the whiche wee set vp sayles againe to double the same while it was yet day. And as wee had so done, and passed beyond it: there appeared vnto vs a fayre entrie of a faire riuer which caused vs to cast Ancker agayne there nerer the land: to the end the next day we might see what it was, and though that the winde blew for a time behemently to the shoreward: yet the hold and Anckerrage was so good, that one cable and one Ancker helde vs fast, with out danger or sliding.

The next day in the morning, being the first of May, wee assayed to enter this Porte, with two newe barges and a boate well trimmed, finding little water barges whiche might haue astonied and caused vs to returne backe to shipboorde, if God had not speedily brought vs in. Where finding 3 6. fadome water, entred into a goodly and great riuer,

which

which as we went founde to encrease still in depth & largenesse, boyling and roaring through the multitude of all kind of fish. This being entred wee perceiued a great number of ỳ Indians inhabitants there, comming along the sandes & Sea bankes, comming neare vnto vs, without any taking of feare or doubt, shewing vnto vs the easiest landing place: & thereupon we giuing them also on our parts thanks of assurance and friendlinesse. Forthwith one of appearance, out of the best among them, brother vnto one of their kinges, or gouernours, commaunded one of the Indians to enter into the water: and to approch our boates to shew vs the coastes landing place. We seeing this (without any more doubting or difficultie) landed, and the messenger (after we had rewarded him with some looking glasse, and other pretie things of small value) ran incontinently toward his Lord: Who forth with sent mee his girdle, in token of assuraunce and friendship, which girdle was made of red leather, as well couered and coloured as was possible: and as I began to go towards him, hee set foorth and came and receiued me gently, and reised after his maner all his men, following with great silence and modestie: yea more then our men did. And after we had a while with gentle vsage congratulated with him: we fell to the grounde a litle way from them, to call vpon the name of God, and to beseech him to cõtinue still his goodnesse towards vs, and bring to the knowledge of our sauiour Christ this poore people. While wee were thus praying (they sitting vpon the grounde, which was strawed and dressed with Bay bowes) behelde and hearkened vnto vs, very attentiuely without either speking or mouing: and as I made a signe vnto their king, lifting vp mine arme, and stretching foorth one finger, only to make them looke vp to heauen'ward: he likewise lifting vp his arme towards heauen put foorth two fingers: whereby it seemed that he made vs to vnderstande, that they worshipped the Sunne and ỳ moone for Gods: as afterwardes wee vnderstoode it so. In the meane time their numbers increased, & thither came the kings brother, that was first with vs, their mother, wiues, sisters and chil-

men, and being thus assembled, they caused a great number of Bay boughes to bee cut, and therewith a place to be dressed for vs, distant from theirs two fadom. For it is their maner to talke and bargaine sitting: and the chiefe of them to bee apart, from the meaner sort, with a shewe of great obedience to their kinges, superiours, and elders. They bee all naked, and of a goodly stature, mightie, & as well shapen & proportioned of body, as any people in ỹ world: very gentle, curteous, and of a good nature.

The most part of them couer their raines and priuities with faire Harts skinnes, painted most commonly with sundrie colours: and the forepart of their body and armes, bee painted with pretie deuised workes, of Azure, red, and blacke, so well and so properly as the best Painter of Europe coulde not amende it. The women haue their bodies painted with a certaine Herbe like vnto Mosse, where of the Cedar trees, and all other trees bee alwayes couered. The men for pleasure doe alwayes trimme them selues therwith, after sundrie fashions: They bee of tauny colour, hauke nosed, and of a pleasant countenance. The women be well fauoured, and will not suffer one dishonestly to approch too neare them. But wee were not in their houses for we sawe none at that time.

Why the riuer of Bay was so called.

After we had taried in this North side of the riuer the most part of the day (which riuer wee haue called Bay, for that wee discouered the same the firste day of the Moneth) wee congratulated, made aliaunce, and entred into amitie with them, and presented the king and his brethren with Gownes of blewe cloth garnished with yellowe Flourdeluces. And it seemed that they were sory for our departure: so that the most part of them entred into the water vp to the necke, to set our boates a flote.

Putting into vs sundry kinde of fishes, which with merueilous speede they ranne to take in their packs, made in the water with great Reedes, so well and cunningly set together, after the fashion of a Laberinth, or Maze, with so many turnes

turnes and crookes, as it is impossible to do it without much cunning and industrie.

But desiring to imploy the rest of the day on the other side of this riuer, to viewe and know those Indians that wee sawe there. We trauersed thither, and without any difficultie landed amongest them, who receiued vs very gently and with great humanitie: putting vs of their fruites, euen into our boates, Mulberies, Raspis, and such other fruites as they founde ready by the way.

Soone after this came thither the king with his bethren, and others with bowes and arrowes in their handes, vsing therewithall a goodly and a graue fashion, with their behauiour right souldierlike, and as warlike boldnes as may be. They were naked and painted as the other, their haire likewise long, and trussed vp (with a lace made of herbes) to the top of their heads: but they had neither their wiues nor children in their companie. After we had a good while louingly entertemed and presented them with like gifts of habersher wares, cutting hookes and hatchets, and clothed the king & his bethren with like robes, as we had giuen to them on the other side: we entred and viewed the countrie thereaboutes, which is the fairest, fruitfullest, & pleasantest of al the world, abounding in hony, venison, wilde foule, forests, woods of all sortes, Palme trees, Cypresse and Cedars, Bayes ỹ highest and greatest, with also the fayrest vines in all the world, with grapes according, which without natural art and without mans helpe or trimming will grow to toppes of Okes, and other trees that be of a wonderfull greatnesse & height. And the sight of the faire medowes is a pleasure not able to be expressed with tongue: full of Hernes, Curlues, Bitters, Mallards, Egrepths, woodcocks, & all other kinde of small birds: with Harts, Hindes, Buckes, wilde Swine, and all other kindes of wilde beastes, as we perceiued well both by their footing there, and also afterwardes in other places, by their crie and roaring in the night.

Also there be Conies & Hares: Silke wormes in meruelous number, a great deale fairer and better, then be our silk

wormes. To bee short, it is a thing vnspeakeable to consider the thinges that bee seene there, and shalbe founde more and more, in this incomperable lande, which neuer yet broken with plough yrons, bringeth forth al things according to his first nature, wherewith the eternall God indued it. About their houses they labour and till the grounde, sowing their fieldes with a graine called Mahis, whereof they make their meale: and in their Gardens they plant beanes, gourdes, cucumbers, Citrons, peason, and many other fruits and rootes vnknowen vnto vs. Their spades and mattocks be made of Wood, so well and fitly as is possible: which they make with certaine stones, oyster shelles & muscles, wherewith also they make their bowes and smal launces: and cut & polish all sortes of wood, that they implove about their buildings, and necessarie vse: There groweth also many Walnut trees, Hasell trees, Cheritrees, very faire and great.

And generally wee haue seene, thereof the same simples and herbes that wee haue in Fraunce, and of the like goodnesse, sauour and taste. The people be very good archers, and of great strength: Their bowe stringes are made of Leather, and their arrowes of Reedes which they doe head with the teeth of fishes. As we now demaunded of them concerning ỹ land called Seuola, whereof some haue written not to bee farre from thence, and to bee situate within the lande, and toward the Sea called the South Sea. They shewed vs by signes that which we vnderstood well enough, that they might goe thither with their Boates (by riuers) in twentie dayes. They that haue written of this kingdome and towne of Seuola, and other townes and kingdomes thereaboutes, say, that there is great aboundance of golde and siluer, precious stones, and other great riches: and that the people had their arrowes headed (in steede of yron) with sharpe poi nted Turquesses. Thus the night approching, it was conuenient for vs to returne by day a shipboorde. Wee tooke leaue of them muche to their griefe, but more to ours without comparison, for that wee

Seuola within xx daies trauailing by boate of the riuer of May.

had

had no meane to enter the riuers with our shippe. And albeit, it was not their custome eyther to eate or drinke from the Sunne rising till his going downe: yet the king openly woulde needes drinke with vs, praying vs verie gently to giue him the cuppe whereout we had drunke: and so making him to vnderstande that wee woulde see him againe the next day, we retired to our shippes, which lay aboue sixe leagues from the hauen to the sea.

The next day in the morning we returned to land againe, accompanied with the Captaines, Gentlemen, and Souldiers, and other of our small trope: carying with vs a Pillour or columne of harde stone, our kings armes graued therein, to plant and set the same in the enterie of the Porte in some high place, where it might bee easely seene, and being come thither before the Indians were assembled, we espied on the south syde of the Riuer a place very fitte for that purpose, vpon a litle hill, compassed with Cypres, Bayes, Paulmes and other trees, with sweete smelling and pleasant shrubbes. In the middle whereof we planted the first bound or limit of his Maiestie. This done perceiuing our first Indians assembled, not without some misliking of those on the South parte, where we had set the limitte, who taried for vs in the same place where they met with vs the day before, seeming vnto vs that there is some enimitie betweene them and the others. But when they perceyued our long tarying on this side, they ran to see what we had done in that place where we landed first, and had set our limitte: which they vewed a great while without touching it any way, or abassing, or euer speaking to vs therof at any time after. Howebeit we could sk̄at depart but as it were w̄ griefe of minde frō this our first alliance, they rowing vnto vs all along the riuer from all parts and presenting vs with some of their harts skins, painted and vnpainted, meale, litle cakes, freshe water, rootes like vnto Rinbabe which they haue in great estimation, and make therof a potion of medicine: also they brought litle bagges of redde colours and some small spices like vnto Aire, perceyuing

uing among them selues fayre thinges painted as it had bin with graine of scarlet, showing vnto vs by signes that they had in the lande golde and siluer and copper: whereof wee haue bought some. Also lead like vnto ours which we shewed. Also turquesses and great aboundance of pearles whiche as they declared vnto vs they tooke out of oysters, whereof there is taken euer along the riuer side, & among the reedes, and in the marshes: and so meruelous aboundance as is skant credible: and we haue perceiued that there be as many and as faire pearles found there as in any countrey of the worlde. For wee sawe a man of theirs as we entered into our boates, that had a pearle hanging at a coller of golde and siluer about his necke, as great as an Acorne at ỳ least. This man as he had taken fishe in one of their fishing packs thereby brought that same to our boates, and our men perceiuing the greatnesse therof, one of them putting his finger toward it, the man drewe backe, and woulde no more come neare the boate: not for any feare that he had that they woulde haue taken his Coller & Pearle from him for he would haue giuen it them, for a looking glasse or a knife:

Gold, siluer, and copper in Florida.

Turquesses and aboundance of pearles.

Marshes.

Pearles as big as acornes.

But that hee doubted lest they woulde haue pulled him into the boate, & so by force haue caried him away. He was one of the goodliest men of all the company. But for that we had no leasure to tary any longer with them, the day being well passed, whiche greeued vs, for the commoditie and great riches, whiche as wee vnderstoode and sawe might bee gotten there, desiring also to employ the rest of the day with our seconde aliance the Indians on the southside, as we perceiued them the day before, which still taried looking for vs: Wee passed the riuer to their shore, where as wee founde them taryng for vs, quietly and in good order, with newe paintings vpon their face, and feathers vpon their heads: the King with his Bowe and Arrowes lying by him, sate on the grounde strawed with boughes betweene his two brethren, whiche were goodly men and well shapen and of a wonderfull show of actiuities, hauing vpon their heades, one haire trussed vp-

vpright of heyght, of some kinde of wild beast gathered and wrought together with great cunning, wyethed and fastned after the forme of a Diademe. One of them had hanging about his necke a rounde plate of redde copper well poltished, with one other lesser of Siluer in the middest of it, & at his eare a litle plate of Copper wherewith they vse to stripe the sweat from their bodies. They shewed vs that there was great store of this mettell within the countrey, about fiue or sixe daies iourney from thence, both in the southside & northside of the same riuers, and that they went thither in their Boates. Which Boates they make but of one piece of a tree, woorking it whole so cunningly and featly, that they put in one of these boates fifteene or twentie persons, and go their wayes very safely. They that rowe stande vpright hauing their oares short after the fashion of a Peele. Thus being among them they presented vs with meale dressed & baked, very good & wel tasted, and of good nourishmēt, also beanes, and fish, as crabbes, lobstars, creuises, and many other kinde of good fishes, shewing vs by signes ỳ their dwellings were farre off, and if their prouision had been neere hande, they woulde haue presented vs with manye other refreshinges.

The night nowe approching, we were faine to returne to our Shippe, very much to our griefe: for that wee durste not hazarde to enter with our Shippe, by reason of a barre of sande, that was at the enterie of the Porte, howbeit, at a full Sea there is two fadome and a halfe of water at the least, and it is but a leape ouer a surge to passe this Barre, not passing the length of two cables, and then forthwith euery where within sixe or seuen fadome water. So that it maketh a very fayre hauen, and Shippes of a meane burden from fourescore to a hundred tunnes may enter therein at all floodes, yea of a farre greater burthen, if there were French men dwelling there that might skoure the enterye as they doe in Fraunce: for there is nothing lacking for the lyfe of man. The situation is vnder the elleuation of xxx. degrees, a good climate healthfull, and of a good tem-

temperature, meruelous pleasãt, ỹ people good, & of a good and amiable nature, which willingly will obay: yea be content to serue those that shall with gentlenes and humanitie goe about to allure them, as it is needful for those that be sent thither hereafter so to doe, and as I haue charged those that be left there to do, to the ende they may aske and learne of thẽ where they take their gold, copper, and turquesses, and other thinges yet vnknowen vnto vs: by reason of the time we sojourned there. For if any rude or rigorous meanes should be vsed towards this people, they woulde flie hither and thither through the Woods and Forests, and abandon their habitations and countreys.

Gentlenes must be vsed towards them.

The next day being the thirde day of May, desiring alwaies to finde out harbours to rest in, we set vp saile againe: And after we had raunged the coast as neere the shore as we could, there appeared vnto vs about seuen leagues of on this side of ỹ riuer of May a great opening or Bay of some riuer, whither with one of our boates we rowed, & there found one entrie almost like ỹ of the riuer of May, and within the same as great a depth, and as large a diuiding it selfe into many great streames, great and broade stretchinges towardes the high lande, with many other lesse, that diuide the countrey into faire and great landes and great number of small and fayre Medowes. Being entred into them about three leagues, wee found in a place very commodious, strong, and pleasant of situation, certayne Indians, who receiued vs very gently: Howe be it, we being somewhat neare their houses, it seemed it was somewhat against their good willes that we went thither, for at their cries and noyses they made their wiues and children and hoshoulde stuffe to be caried into the Woods: Howe be it they suffered vs to goe into their houses, but they themselues woulde not accompany vs thither. Their houses bee made of Wood fitly and close, set vpright and couered with Reedes: the most part of them after the fashion of a pauilion. But there was one house amongest the rest verie long and broade, with settles rounde about made

of

of Reedes trimly couched together, which ſerue them both for beddes and ſeates, they be of height two foote from the grounde, ſet vpon great rounde pillers painted with red, yelowe, and blewe, well and trimlie poliſhed: ſome ſorte of this people perceiuing that we had in no maner wiſe hurted their dwellings nor gardens whiche they dreſſed very diligently, they returned all vnto vs before our inbarking, ſeeming very well contented by their giuing vnto vs water, fruites, and Hart ſkinnes. It is a place wonderfull fertill, and of ſtrong ſituatiõ, the ground fat, ſo that it is likely that it would bring forth Wheate and all other corne twiſe a yeere, and the commodities for liuelihood, and the hope of more riches, bee like vnto thoſe we found and conſidered vpon the riuer of May, without comming into the ſea: this arme doth diuide, and maketh many other Iles of May, as alſo many other great Ilandes: by the which wee trauell from one Iſlande to another, betweene lande and land. And it ſeemeth that men may ſayle without danger through al the countrey, and neuer enter into the great ſea, which were a wonderfull aduantage. Great fertilitie. Note.

This is the lande of Chicere whereof ſome haue written, & which many haue gone about to find out, for ỹ great riches they perceiued by ſome Indians to be founde there. It is ſet vnder ſo good a climate, that none of our men (though wee were there in the hoteſt time of the yeere, the ſunne entring into Cancer) were troubled with any ſickneſſes. The people there liue long and in great health and ſtrength, ſo that the aged men goe without ſtaues, and are able to goe and runne like the youngeſt of them, who onely are knowen to be olde by the winckles in their face, and decay of ſight. Wee departed from them verie friendly, & with their contentation. But the night ouertaking vs, we were conſtrayned to lye in our ſhips all that night, till it was day, floting vpon this riuer which we haue called Sene, becauſe that the entery of it is as broade as from hauer degrace vnto Honefleue. At the breake of the day wee eſpied out of the South ſyde one of the fayreſt, pleaſanteſt, and greateſt medowe grounde The riuer of Sene.

that might bee seene, into the which wee went, finding at the very entrie a long, faire, and great Lake, and an innumerable number of footesteps of great Hartes and Hindes of a wonderfull greatnesse, the steppes beeing all fresh and new, and it seemeth that the people doe nourishe them like tame Cattell in great heards: for we saw the steppes of an Indian that folowed them.

Heardes of tame Hartes.

The Chanell and depth of this riuer of Seyne, is one ȳ side of the medowe that is in the Ile of May. Being returned to our ships, we sayled to knowe more and more of this coast, going as neere the shore as we coulde. And as wee had sayled about sixe or seuen leagues, there appeared vnto us another Bay, where we cast anker, and tarrying so all the night, in the morning wee went thither, and finding (by our sounding) at the entrie many bankes and beatings, we durst not enter there with our great ship, hauing named the riuer Somme, which is 8. 9. 10. 11. fadome depth, diuiding it selfe into many great Ilands, and small goodly medow grounds and pastures, and euery where such abundance of fish as is incredible, and on the Weast Northwest side, there is a great riuer that commeth frō the countrie of a great length ouer: and another on the Northeast side, which returne into the Sea. So that (my Lord) it is a countrie full of hauens, riuers, and Ilands, of such fruitfulnes as cannot with tongue be expressed: and where in short time great and precious cōmodities might bee found. And besides this wee discouered and found also vii. riuers more, as great and as good, cutting and diuiding the land into faire and great Ilands. The Indians inhabitants there be like in manners, & the countrie infertillitie apt and commodious throughout to beare & bring foorth plentifully all that men would plant or sowe vpon it. There bee euery where the highest and greatest Firtrees ȳ can be seene, very well smelling, and where out might bee gathered (with cutting the only bark) as much Rosen, Turpentine, & Frākēsence, as men would desire. And to be short there lacketh nothing. Wherefore being not able to enter & lie with our great vessels there, we could make no long abi-

Good hauens and riuers.

7. Great & good riuers.

ding.

ding, nor enter so farre into the riuers and countries as wee would faine haue done: for it is well knowne how many inconueniences haue happened vnto men, not only in attempting of newe discoueries, but also in all places by leauing their great vessels in the Sea, farre from the land, vnfurnished of the heads and best men. As for ẏ other riuers we haue giuen them names as followeth: and vnto the Ilandes ioyning vnto them, the same name that the next riuer vnto it hath, as you shall see by the portratures or Cardes ẏ I haue made thereof. As to the fourth name of Loire, to ẏ fift Charnet, to ẏ sixt Carõ to the 7. riuer Belle, to ẏ 8. riuer Graside, to the 9. port Royall, and to the tenth Belle Uirrir.

Maps and Sea Cardes.

Upon Whitsunday the xxvii. day of May, after wee had perceiued and considered that there was no remedie, but to assay to find the meanes to harber our ships, as wel to amend and trimme them, as to get vs fresh water, wood, and other necessaries, whereof wee hauing opinion that there was no fayrer or fitter place for the purpose, then port Royall. And when wee had sounded the entrie and the Chanell (thanked be God) wee entered safely therein with our shippes, against the opinion of many, finding the same one of the fayrest and greatest Hauens of the worlde.

Port royall a most excellent hauen.

Howbeit, it must be remembred least men approching neare it within seuen leagues of the lande, bee abashed and affraide on the Eastside, drawing towarde the Southeast, the grounde to be flatte, for neuertheless at a full sea, there is enery where foure fadome water, keeping the right Chanel.

Note.

In this part there are many riuers of meane bignesse and large, where without daunger the greatest shippes of the worlde might bee harboured, which wee founde, no Indian inhabiting there aboutes. The Porte and Riuers side is nearer then tenne or twelue leages vpwardes into the countreys, although it bee one of the goodliest, best, and fruitefullest countreys that euer was seene, and where nothing lacketh, and also where as good and likely commodities bee founde as in other places thereby.

For wee founde there a great number of Pepertrees,

Pepper trees

the Pepper yet greene, and not ready to bee gathered: Also the best water of the world, and so many sortes of fishes that yee may take them without net or angle so many as ye will. Also an innumerable sort of wilde foule of all sortes, and in little Ilandes at the entrie of this hauen, on the East North-east side, there is so great number of Egrepes that the bushes bee all white and couered with them, so that one may take of the young ones with his hande as many as hee will carry away. There bee also a number of other foules, as Hernes, Bitters, Curlues. And to bee short, there is so many small byrdes that it is a strange thing to bee seene. Wee founde the Indians there more doubtfull and fearefull then the others before: Yet after we had been in their houses, and congregated with them, and shewed curtesie to those that we founde to haue abandoned there through boats meale, victuall, and small household stuffe, and both in not taking awaye or touching any part thereof, and in leauing in that place where they dressed their meate, Kniues, Looking glasses, little Beades of glasse, which they loue and esteeme aboue golde and pearles, for to hang them at their eares and neck, and to giue them to their wiues and children: they were somewhat emboldened.

A speciall note.

For some of them came to our boates, of the which wee carried two goodly and strong aboorde our shippes, clothing and vsing them as gently as it was possible. But they ceased not day nor nyght to lament, and at length they escaped away. Wherefore albeit, I was willing (according to your commaundement and memoriall) to bring away some of them with vs, on the Princes behalfe and yours, I forbare to doe so for many considerations and reasons that they told mee, and for that we were in doubt that (leauing some of our men there to inhabite) all the Countrie, men, women, and children, woulde not haue ceased to pursue them for to haue theirs againe: seeing they bee not able to consider and way to what entent wee shoulde haue carried them away: & this may bee better doone to their contentation, when they haue better acquaintance of vs, and know that there is no suche

A commandement.

crueltie

crueltie in vs, as in other people and nations, of whom they haue beene beguiled vnder colour of good faith: whiche doing in the ende turned to the doers no good. This is the riuer of Iordain in mine opinion, whereof so much hath beene spokē, which is very faire & the coūtrie good, both for ẏ easie habitation, and also for many other things, which should bee long to write. The riuer of Iordan.

The twentie of May wee planted another columne or pillor grauen with the kinges armes on the South side, in a high place, of the entrie of a great riuer, which wee called Libourne: where there is a lake of fresh water very good, and on the same side a little lower towards the entrie of the Hauen is one of the fayrest fountaines that a man may drink of, which falleth by violence down to the riuer from an high place out of a red and sandy ground, and yet for all that fruitefull and of good ayre, where it shoulde seeme that the Indians haue had some faire habitation.

There we sawe the fayrest & the greatest vines with grapes according, and young trees, and smal woods, very wel smelling, that euer were seen: wherby it appeareth to be the pleasantest & most commodious dwelling of al ẏ world. Therefore (my Lorde) trusting you will not thinke it amisse (considering the commodities that may be brought thence) if we leaue a number of men there, which may fortifie and prouide them selues of things necessary: for in all new discoueries it is the chiefest thing that may be done, at the beginning to fortifie and people the countrey. I had not so soone set forth this to our companie, but many of them affraid to tary there, yet with such a good will and ioly corage, that such a number did thus offer themselues, as we had much to do to stay their importunitie. Exceeding faire and great vines

Fortification most necessarie in all newe discoueries.

And namely of our shipmaisters and principall pilotes, and such as we could not spare. How bee it, wee lefte there but to the number of thirtie in all, Gentlemen, souldiers, and marriners, and that at their own suit and prayer, and of their owne free willes, and by the aduice and deliberation of the Gentlemen sent on the behalfe of the Prince and yours. 30. lefte behind at their owne suite

And haue left vnto the forehead and rulers (following therein your good will) Captaine Albert de la Pierria, a souldier of long experience, and the first that from the beginning did offer to tarry. And further by theyr aduice, choyse and will, inskaled and fortified them in an Iland on the north side, a place of strong situation and commodious, vpon a riuer which wee named Chenonceau, and the habitation and Fortresse Charlefote.

They fortified in an Iland.

After we had instructed and duly admonished them of that they shoulde doe (as well for their maner of proceeding, as for the good and louing behauiour of them) the xi. day of the moneth of June last past, we departed from port Royal: minding yet to range and view the coast vntill the xl. degrees of the eleuation: But for as much as there came vpon vs troublesome and cloudie weather, very incommodious for our purpose, and considering also amongst many other thinges, that we had spent our cables and furniture thereof, which is the most principall thing that longeth to them that go to discouer countreys, where continually both night and day they must lie at ancker: also our victualls beeing perished and spilte, our lacke of Boateswaines to set forth our rowe barges, and leaue our vessels furnished. The declaration made vnto vs of our Pilots and some others that had before been at some of those places, where we purposed to sayle, and haue been already found by some of the kings subiects, the daunger also and inconueniences that might thereof happen vnto vs: & by reason of the great mystes and fogges wherof the seasō was already come, we perceiued very well wheras we were, ỹ we could do no good, & that it was to late, & ỹ good & fit season for to vndertake this thing already past. Al these thinges thus well considered and wayed, and also for that we thought it meet and necessarie that your honour should with diligence be aduertised (through the help of God) to returne homewards to make relatiō vnto you of the effect of our nauigation. Praying God that it may please him to keepe you in long health, and prosperitie.

Fortie degrees of elevation.

Mistes & fogs when they come.

FINIS.

Notes in writing besides more priuie by mouth that were giuen by a Gentleman, *Anno*, 1580. *to M. Arthure Pette and to M. Charles Iackman, sent by the marchants of the Muscouie companie for the discouerie of the northeast strayte, not altogether vnfit for some other enterprises of discouerie, hereafter to bee taken in hande.*

What respect of Ilandes is to be had, and why.

WHereas the Portingales haue in their course to their Indies in the Southeast, certaine portes and fortificatiõs to thrust into by the way, to diuers great purposes: So you are to see what Ilands, and what portes you had neede to haue by the way in your course, to the Northeast. For which cause I wish you to enter into consideration of the matter, & to note all the Ilands, & to set them downe in plat, to two endes, that is to say, That wee may deuise to take the benefite by them. And also foresee how by thẽ the Sauages or ciuill Princes, may in any sort anoy vs in our purposed trade that way.

And for that the people to the which wee purpose in this voyage to goe, be no Christians, it were good that the masse of our commodities were alwayes in our owne disposition, and not at the will of others. Therefore it were good that we did seeke out some small Iland in the Scithian Sea, where we might plant, Fortifie, & Staple safely, frõ whẽce (as time shoulde serue) wee might feede those heathen nations with our commodities without cloying them, or without venturing our hole masse in the bowels of their countrey.

And to whiche Ilande if neede were (and if we shoulde thinke so good) we might allure the Northeast nauie, the nauie of Cambalu to resort with their commodities to vs there planted, and stapling there.

And if such an Iland might be found so standing as might shorten our course, and so standing, as that the Nauie of Cã-balu, or other those parties might cõueniently saile vnto wout their dislike in respect of distãce: thẽ would it fal out wel. For so, besides lesse daũger, and more safetie, our ships might there vnlade and lade againe, and returne the selfesame sommer to the ports of England or of Norway.

And if such an Iland may be found for the stabling of our commodities, to the which they of Cambalu would not saile, yet we might, hauing shippes there, imploy them in passing betweene Cambalu and that stapling place.

Respect of hauens and harbarowes.

AND if no such Ilandes may be found in the Scithiã sea toward the firme of Asia, then are you to search out the ports that be about Noua Sembla all along the tract of that land, to the end you may winter there the first yeere, if you be let by contrarie winds, & to the ende that if wee may in short time come vnto Cãbalu, & vnlade and set saile againe for returne without ventering, there at Cãbalu, that you may on your way come as farre in returne as a port about Noua Sẽbla: That the Sommer following, you may the sooner be in England for the more speedy vent of your East cõmodities, and for the speedier discharge of your Mariners: if you can not goe forward and backe in one selfe same sommer.

And touching the tract of the land of Noua sembla, toward the East out of the circle Artick in the more temperate zone, you are to haue regard, for if you finde the soyle planted with people, it is like ẏ in time an ample vẽt of our warm wollẽ clothes may be founde. And if there be no people at al there to be found, then you shall specially note what plentie of whales, & of other fish is to be found there, to the end wee may turne our newfound land fishing or Iland fishing, or our whalefishing, ẏ way for the ayde & cõfort of our new trades to the Northeast, to the coasts of Asia.

Respect of fishe and certayne other thinges.

AND if the ayre may be found vpon that tract temperate, & the soyle yeelding wood, water, land and grasse, and the seas fish, then we may plant on that mayne the offals of our people, as the Portingals doe in Brasil, & so they may in our fishing in our passage, & diuers wayes yeelde commoditie to England by harbouring and vitelling of vs.

And it may bee, that the inland there may yeelde masts, pitch, tarre, hempe, and all thinges for the Nauie, as plentifully as Eastland doth.

The Ilandes to be noted with their commodities and wantes.

TO note the Ilands, whether they be hie lande or lowe land, moūtanie, or flat, sandy, grauelly, clay, chalchy, or of what soyle, woodey or not wooddy, with springs & riuers or not, and what wyld beasts they haue in the same.

And whether there seeme to be in the same apt matter to build withall, as stone free or rough, and stone to make lime withall, and wood or coale to burne the same withall.

To note the goodnes or the badnes of the hauens, & harborowes in the Ilandes.

If a straite be founde what is to bee done and what greate importance it may bee of.

AND if there be a strayte in the passage into the Scithian Seas, the same is specially and with great regard to bee noted, especially if the same straite be narrow and to be kept, I say it is to be noted as a thing that doeth much importe, for what Prince soeuer shall be Lorde of the same, and shall possesse the same, as the king of Denmarke doth possesse the straite of Denmarke, he onely shall haue the trade out of these regions into the Northeast partes of the world for himselfe, and for his priuate profit, or for his subiectes only, or to enioy wonderfull benefite of the toll of the same, like as the king of Dēmarke doth enioy of his straites, by suffering the Merchantes of other Princes to passe that way, If any such straite be found, the eleuation, the hie or lowe lande, the ha-

uens neere, the length of the ſtraites, & all other ſuch circuſtaunces are to be ſet downe for many purpoſes: And all the Mariners in ẏ voyage are to be ſworne to keepe cloſe al ſuch thinges, that other Princes preuent vs not of the ſame, after our returne vpon the diſcloſing of the mariners, if any ſuche thing ſhould happe.

Which way the Sauage may be made able to purchaſe our cloth and other their wantes.

IF you finde any Iland or mayne laude populous, and that the ſame people hath neede of cloth: Then are you to deuiſe what commodities they haue to purchaſe the ſame withall.

If they be poore, then are you to conſider of the ſoyle, and how by any poſſibilitie the ſame may be made to enrich thē, that hereafter they may haue ſomthing to purchaſe the cloth withall.

If you enter into any mayne by portable riuer and ſhall finde any great woods, you are to note what kynd of timber they be of: That we may know whether they are for pitche, tarre, maſtes, deleboorde, clapboorde, or for buylding of ſhips or houſes, for ſo if the people haue no vſe of them they maye be brought perhaps to vſe.

Not to venture the loſſe of any one man.

YOu muſt haue great care to preſerue your people, ſince your number is ſo ſmall, and not to venture any one man in any wiſe.

To bring home beſides marchandize certaine trifles.

BRing home with you (if you may) from Cambalu, or other ciuill place, one or other young man, although you leaue one for him.

Alſo the fruites of the countries, if they will not of thēſelues dure, drie them, and ſo preſerue them.

And bring with you the Curnelles of peres, & apples, and the ſtones of ſuch ſtone fruites as you ſhall finde there.

Also the seedes of all strange herbes and flowres, for such seedes of fruites and hearbes comming from another part of the world and so farre off, wil delite the fancie of many, for the strangenes and for that the same may growe and continue the delite long time.

If you arriue at Cambalu or Quinsay, to bring thence the Mappe of that Countrey, for so shall you haue the perfecte description which is to great purpose.

To bring thence some old printed booke, to see whether they haue had print there, before it was deuised in Europe as some write.

To note their force by sea and by lande.

If you arriue in Cambalu or Quinsay, to take a speciall viewe of their Nauie, and to note the force, greatnesse, maner of building of them, the sayles, the tackels, the anckers, the furniture of them, with ordinaunce, armour, and munition.

Also, to note the force of the walles and bulwarkes of their cities, their ordinaunce, and whether they haue any caliuers, and what powder and shot.

To note what armour they haue.

What swordes.

What pikes, halbertes and billes.

What horses of force, and what light horses they haue.

And so throughout, to note the force of the countrey, both by sea and by lande.

Things to be marked to make coniectures by.

TO take speciall note of their buildings, and of the ornaments of their houses within.

Take a speciall note of their apparell and furniture, & of the substance that the same is made of, of which a marchant may make a gesse, as well of their commodities as also of their wantes.

To note their shoppes and warehouses and with what

commodities they abounde, the price also.

To see their shambles, and to viewe all such thinges as are brought into the markets, for so you shall sone see the commodities, and the maner of the people of the inlande, and so giue a gesse of many things.

To note their fieldes of grayne, and their trees of fruite, and howe they abounde or not abounde in one and other, and what plentie or scarcetie of fishe they haue.

Thinges to be carried with you, whereof more or lesse is to be caried for a shewe of our commodities to bee made.

KErsies of all orient coulours, specially of stamel, brode cloth of orient colours also.

Frisadoes, motleys, histowe frices, spanish blankettes, bayes of all collours, specially with stamell, wosteds, carels, sayes, wedmoles, flanelles, rashe, &c.

Feltes of diuers colours.

Taffeta hats.

Deepe cappes for mariners coloured in stamell, whereof if ample vent may be found, it woulde turne to an infinite commoditie of the common poore people by knitting.

Quilted Cappes of leuant Taffeta of diuers colours, for the night.

Knit stockes of silke of orient colours.

Knit stockes of Jersey yerne, of orient colours, whereof if ample vent might followe the poore multitude shoulde be set in worke.

Stocks of kersey of diuers colours for men and for women.

Garters of Silke of seuerall kindes, and of colours diuers.

Girdels of Buffe, and all other leather, with gilt and vngilt Buckles, specially wast girdels, wast girdles of velues.

Gloues of all sortes, knit and of leather.

Gloues perfumed.

Points

Poyntes of all soytes of silke, cheed, and lether, of all maner of colours.

Shooes of spanishe leather, of diuers colours, of diuers lengthes, cut and vncut.

Shooes of other leather.

Ueluet shooes, and pantoples.

These shooes and pantoples to be sent this time, rather for a showe then for any other cause.

Purses knit, and of leather.

Night cappes knit and other.

A Garnishe of Pewter, for a showe of a vent of that englishe commoditie, Bottelles, flagons, spoones, &c. of that metall.

Glasses of englishe making.

Uenice glasses.

Looking glasses for women, great and fayne.

Small dials a few for proofe, although there they wil not hold the ryder they do heere.

Spectacles of the commom sort.

Others of Cristall trymmed with siluer and otherwise.

Dwze glasses.

Commes of Iuozie.

Commes of Boxe.

Commes of Hozne.

Linen of diuers sozts.

Handkerchewes with silke of seuerall colours wrought.

Glasen eyes to ride with against dust.

Kniues in sheathes, both single and double, of good edge.

Needles great and small of euery kinde.

Buttons greater and smaller, with mouldes of leather and not of wood, and such as be durable of double silke, and that of sundzie colours.

Boxes with weightes of golde, and of euery kinde of the coyne of golde, good and badde, to shewe that the people here, vse weight and measure whiche is a certayne showe of wisedome, and of a certayne gouernment setled here.

All the seuerall siluer Coynes of our Englishe moneys, to bee caried with you to bee showed to the gouernours at Cambalu, which is a thing that shal in silence speake to wise men more then you imagine.

Lockes and keyes, hinges, boltes, haspes, &c. great and small of excellent workemanshippe, whereof if vent may bee hereafter, wee shall set our subiectes in worke, whiche you must haue in great regarde. For in finding ample vente of any thing that is to be wrought in this realme, is more worth to our people besides the gaine of the marchant, then Christchurch, Bridewel, the Sauoy, and all the Hospitals of Englande.

For banketing on Shipborde, persons of credite.

FIrst the sweetest perfumes to set vnder hatches to make the place sweete against their comming aborde, if you arriue at Cambalu, Quinsey, or in such great cities and not among sauages.

Marmelade.

Sucket.

Figges barelled.

Reysings of the sunne.

Comfets of diuers kindes made of purpose, that shall not dissolue by him that is most excellent.

Prunes damaske.

Dried peres.

Walnuttes.

Almondes.

Smalnuttes.

Oliues to make them taste their wine.

The Apple Iohn that dureth two yeeres to make showe of our fruites.

Hullocke.

Sacke.

Vials of good sweet waters, & casting bottels of glasses to besprinckel the gests withall, after their comming aborde.

Suger, to vse with their wine, if they will. The

The ſweete oyle of Santie and excellent Frenche vinegar, and a fine kinde of Biſket, ſtiped in the ſame doe make a banketting diſhe, and a little Suger caſt in it cooleth and comfoꝛteth, and refreſheth the ſpirites of man.

Synomome water
Imperiall water } is to be had with you to make a ſhewe of by taſte, and alſo to comfoꝛt your ſicke in the voyage.

With theſe and ſuch like, you may banket where you arriue the greater and beſt perſons.

Oꝛ with the gift of theſe Marmelades in ſmall boxes, oꝛ ſmall violles of ſweete waters you may gratifie by way of gift, oꝛ you may make a merchandiſe of them.

The mappe of England and of London.

Take with you the mappe of Englande ſet out in faire colours, one of the biggeſt ſoꝛt I meane, to make ſhewe of your Countrie from whence you come.

And alſo the large mappe of London, to make ſhewe of your Citie. And let the riuer bee dꝛawne full of ſhippes of all ſoꝛtes, to make the moꝛe ſhewe of your greate trade and trafficke in trade of merchandiſe.

Ortelius booke of mappes

If you take Oꝛtelius booke of mappes with you, to marke all theſe regions, it were not amiſſe, and if neede were to preſent the ſame to the great Cam, foꝛ it would bee to a Pꝛince of merueilous account.

The booke of the attyre of all nations.

Such a booke carried with you and beſtowed in gift, woulde be much eſteemed, as I perſuade my ſelfe.

Bookes.

If any man will lende you the newe Herball, and ſuche bookes as make ſhewe of Herbes, Plantes, Trees, Fiſhes, Foules and Beaſtes of theſe regions, it may much delight

the great Cam, and the nobilitie, and also their merchants to haue the viewe of them: for all things in these parties so much differing from the thinges of those regions, since they may not be here to see thē, by meane of the distance, yet to see those things in a shadowe, by this meane will delight them.

The booke of Rates.

TAke with you the booke of Rates, to the ende you may picke all those commodities there specified that you shall chaunce to find in Cambalu, in Quinsey, or in any part of the East, where you shall chaunce to bee.

Parchment.

Rowles of Parchment, for that we may vent much without hurt to the Realme, and it lyes in small roome.

Glewe.

To carrye Glewe, for that wee haue plentie, and want vent.

Red Oker for Painters.

To seeke vent because wee haue great mines of it, and haue no vent.

Sope of both kindes.

To trie what vent it may haue, for that we make of both kindes, and may perhaps make more.

Saffron.

To trie what vent you may haue of Saffron, because this Realme yeeldes the best of the worlde, and for the tillage and other labours, may set the poore greatly in work to their reliefe.

Aquauitæ.

By newe deuise wonderfull quantities may bee made heere, and therefore to seeke the vent.

Blacke Conic skinnes.

To trie the vent at Cambalue, for that it lyes towardes

the

the North, and for that wee abounde with the commoditie, and may spare it.

Threade of all colours.

The vent thereof may set our people in worke.

Copper Spurres, and haukes belles.

To see the vent, for it may set our people in worke.

A note and a caueat for the merchant.

That before you offer your commodities to sale that you indeuour to learne what commodities the Countrie there hath. For if you bring thither veluet, taffeta, spice, or any such commoditie that you your selfe desire to lade your selfe home with, you must not sell yours deare, least hereafter you purchase theirs not so cheape as you woulde.

Seedes for sale.

Carrie with you for that purpose, all sortes of Garden seedes, as well of sweete strawing herbes and of flowers, as also of pot herbes, and all sorts for rootes, &c.

Leadde of the first melting.

Leadde of the second melting of the slagges.

To make triall of the vent of Leadde of all kindes.

English yron, and wyer of yron and copper.

To trye the sale of the same.

Brymstone.

To trie the vent of the same, because wee abounde of it made in the Realme,

Anthimoney a minerall.

To see whether they haue any ample use there for it, for that wee may lade whole nauies of it, and haue no vse of it vnlesse it bee for some small portion in founding of belles, or a lithel that the Alcumistes vse, of this you may haue two sortes at the Appoticaries.

Timber

Tinder boxes with Steele, flint, and matches, and tinder, the matches to bee made of Gineper, to auoide the offence of brimstone.

To trie and to make the better sale of Brimstone by shewing the vse.

Candles of waxe to light.

A painted Bellowes.

For that perhaps they haue not the vse of them.

A pot of cast yron.

To trie the sale, for that it is a naturall commoditie of this Realme.

All maner of edge tooles.

To bee sold there or to the lesse ciuill people by the way where you shall twich.

What I woulde haue you there to remember.

To note specially what excellent dying they vse in these regions, and therefore to note their garments, & ornaments of houses: and to see their die houses and the materialles, and simples that they vse about the same: and to bring Musters and shewes of the colours and of the materials, for that it may serue this clothing realme to great purpose.

To take with you for your owne vse.

All maner of Engyns to take fishe and foule.

To take with you those thinges that bee in perfection of goodnesse.

For as the goodnesse nowe at the first may make your commodities in credit in time to come: So false and sophisticate commodities shall drawe you and all your commodities into contempt and ill opinion.

Notes framed by a Gentleman *heretofore to bee giuen to one that pre-*

pared for a discouerie, and went not: And not vnfitt to be committed to print, considering the same may stirre vp considerations of these and of such other thinges, not vnmeete in such new voyages as may be attempted hereafter.

THat the first Seate be chosen on ỳ seaside so as (if it may be) you may haue your owne Nauie within Bay, riuer or lake, within your seat safe from the enemie. And so as the enemie shalbe forced to lie in opẽ rode abroade without, to be dispersed with all windes and tempests that shall arise. Thus seated you shall bee least subiecte to annoy of the enemie, so may you by your Nauie within, passe out to all partes of the worlde, and so may the shippes of Englande haue accesse to you to supply all wantes, so may your commodities be caried away also. This seate is to bee chosen in temperate Climat, in sweete ayre, where you may possesse alwayes sweete water, wood, seacoles, or turfe, with fish, flesh, grayne, fruits, herbes and rootes, or so many of those, as may suffice very necessitie for the life of such as shall plant there. And for the possessing of mines of golde, of siluer, copper, quicksiluer, or of any suche precious thing, the wantes of diuers of those needfull thinges may be supplied from some other place by sea, &c.

Stone to make Lyme of.
Slate stone to tile withall
or suche clay as maketh tyle,
Stone to wall withal if

are to be looked for as thinges without which no Citie may bee made

Bycke may not bee made,
Timber for building easely to be conueied to the place,
Reede to couer houses or such like, if tile or slate be not.

nor people in ciuill sorte be kept together.

The people there to plant and to continue are eyther to liue without trafficke, or by trafficke and by trade of marchandize. If they shall liue without sea trafficke, at the first they become naked by want of linen and wollen, and very miserable by infinite wantes that will otherwise ensue, and so will they be forced of them selues to depart, or els easely they will bee consumed by the Sp. by the Fr. or by the naturall inhabithantes of the countrey, and so the interprice becomes reprochfull to our nation, and a lett to many other good purposes that may be taken in hande.

And by trade of marchandize they can not liue, excepte the sea or the lande there may yeelde commoditie for commoditie. And therefore you ought to haue most speciall regarde of that point, and so to plant, that the naturall commodities of the place and seate, may drawe to you accesse of Nauigation for the same, or that by your owne Nauigation you may carie the same out, and fetche home the supplye of the wantes of the seate.

Such nauigation so to bee employed, shall besides the supply of wantes, bee able to encounter with forreyne force.

And for that in the ample vente of suche thinges as are brought to you out of engl. by sea, standeth a matter of great consequence, it behoueth that all humanitie and curtesie and much forbearing of reuenge to the inland people be vsed, so shall you haue firme amitie with your neyghbours, so shall you haue their inland commodities to maintayne trafficke, & so shall you waxe rich and strong in force. Diuers & seuerall commodities of the inland are not in great plentie to be brought to your handes, without the ayde of some portable or Nauigable ryuer, or ample lacke, and therefore to haue

the

the helpe of suche a one is most requisite : And so is it of effecte for the dispersing of your owne commodities in exchange into the inlandes.

Nothing is more to be indeuoured with the Inland people then familiaritie. For so may you best discouer al the naturall commodities of their countrey, and also all their wantes, all their strengthes, all their weakenesse, and with whome they are in warre, and with whome confiderate in peace and amitie, &c. Whiche knowen, you may worke many great effectes of greatest consequence.

And in your planting the consideration of the climate and of the soyle bee matters that are to bee respected. For if it be so that you may let in the salt sea water, not mixed with the fresh into flattes, where the sunne is of the heate that it is at Rochell, in the Bay of portingall, or in Spaine, then may you procure a man of skill, and so you haue wonne one noble commoditie for the fishing, and for trade of marchandize by making of Salt.

Or if the soyle and clymate bee such as may yeelde you the Grape as good as that at Burdeus, as that in Portingale, or as that about Siui in Spaine, or that in the Ilands of the Canaries, then there resteth but a workeman to put in execution to make wines, and to dresse Resings of the sunne and other, &c.

Or if you finde a soyle of the temperature of the South part of Spaine or Barbarie, in whiche you finde the Olif tree to growe: Then you may bee assured of a noble marchandize for this realme, considering that our great trade of clothing doth require oyle, and weying howe deere of late it is become by the vent they haue of that commoditie in the West Indies, and if you finde the wilde olif there it may be graffed.

Or if you can finde the berrie of Cochenile with whiche wee colour Stammelles, or any Roote, Berrie, Fruite, wood or earth fitte for dying, you winne a notable thing fitt

for our state of clothing. This Cochenile is naturall in the west Indies on that firme.

Or if you haue hides of beastes fit for sole Lether, &c. It wilbe a marchandize right good, and the sauages there yet can not tanne Lether after our kinde, yet excellently after their owne maner.

Or if the soyle shall yeelde Figges, Almondes, Sugar Canes, Quinces, Orenges, Lemons, Potatos, &c. there may arise some trade and trafficke, by figges, almonds, sugar, marmelade, Sucket &c.

Or if great woods bee founde, if they be of Cypres, chests may bee made, if they bee of some kinde of trees, pitche and tarre may be made, if they bee of some other then they may yeelde Rosin, Turpentine, &c. and al for trade and trafficke, and Caskes for wine and oyle may be made: likewise ships and houses, &c.

And because trafficke is a thing so materiall, I wish that great obseruation be taken what euery soyle yeeldeth naturally, in what commoditie soeuer, and what it may be made to yeeld by indeuour, and to send vs notice home, that thereupon wee may deuise what meanes may be thought of to rayse trades.

Nowe admit that we might not be suffered by the sauages to enioy any whole countrey or any more thē the scope of a Citie, yet if wee might enioy trafficke and be assured of the same, wee might bee much inriched, our Nauie might be increased, & a place of safetie might there be found, if change of religion or ciuill warres shoulde happen in this realme, which are thinges of great benefite. But if we may inioy any large Territorie of apt soyle, we might so vse the matter, as we should not depende vpon Spaine for oyles, sacks, resinges, orenges, lemons, Spanish skinnes, &c. Nor vppon Fraunce for woad, bayesalt, and gascoyne wines, nor on Estlande for flaxe, pitch, tarre, maستes, &c. So we shoulde not so exhaust our treasure, and so exceedingly inriche our doubtfull friendes, as we doe, but shoulde purchasse the commodities that we want for halfe the treasure that now we do: but

shoulde

ſhould by our own induſtries & the benefits of the ſoile there cheapely purches oyles, wines, ſalt, fruits, pitch, tarre, flaxe, hempe, maſtes, booydes, fiſhe, gold, ſiluer, copper, tallowe, hides and many commodities: beſides if there be no flatts to make ſalt on, if you hauc plentie of wood you may make it in ſufficient quantitie foy common vſes at home there.

If you can keepe a ſafe hauen, although you haue not the friendſhip of the neere neyghbours, yet you may haue traffick by ſea vpon one ſhoye oy other, vpon that firme in time to come, if not preſent.

If you finde great plenty of tymber on the ſhoye ſide oy vpon any poytable riuer, you were beſt to cut downe of the ſame the firſt wynter, to bee ſeaſoned foy ſhippes, barkes, botes and houſes.

And if neere ſuch wood there be any riuer oy hooke vpon the which a ſawing mill may be placed, it woulde doe great ſeruice, and therefoye conſideration woulde bee had of ſuche place.

And if ſuch poyt & choſē place of ſetling were in poſſeſſiō & after foytified by art, although by ẏ land ſide our Engliſhmē were kept in, and might not inioy any traffick with the next neighbours, noy any vittel: yet might they vittel themſelues of fiſhe to ſerue verie neceſſitie, and enter into amitie with the enemies of their next neighbours, & ſo haue vent of their marchandize of England and alſo haue vittel, oy by meanes hereupon to be vſed to foyce the next neighbours to amitie. And keeping a nauie at the ſetling place, they ſhoulde finde out along the tracte of the lande to haue trafficke, and at diuers Iſlandes alſo. And ſo this firſt ſeate might in time become a ſtapling place of the commodities of many countreys and territoyies, and in tyme this place myght become of all the pyouinces round about the only gouernour. And if the place firſt choſē ſhould not ſo wel pleaſe our people, as ſome other moye lately founde out: There might bee an eaſie remoue, and that might be raſed, oy rather kept foy others of our nation to auoyde an ill neyghbour, &c.

If the ſoyles adioyning to ſuch conuenient hauen and

setling place be founde marshie and boggie, then men skilfull in draining are to be caried thither. For arte may worke wonderfull effectes therein, and make the soyle rich for many vses.

To plante vppon an Ilande in the mouth of some notable riuer, or vpon the poynt of the lande entring into the riuer, if no such Iland be, were to great ende. For if such riuer were nauigable or portable farre into the lande, then would arise great hope of planting in fertill soyles, and traffick on the one or on thother side of the riuer, or on both, or the linking in amitie with one or other petie king contēding there for dominion.

Such riuers founde, both barges and boates may bee made for the safe passage of such as shal perceyue ỹ same. These to bee couered with doubles of course linnen artificially wrought, to defend the arrow or the dart of the sauage from the rower.

Since euery soyle of the woyld by arte may be made to yeelde things to feede and to cloth man, bring in your returne a perfect note of the soyle without and within, and we shall deuise if neede require to amende the same, & to draw it to more perfectiō. And if you finde not fruits in your planting place to your liking, we shal in v. dyfats furnish you wt such kinds of plants to be caried thither ỹ winter after your planting, as shall the very next summer folowing, yeeld you some fruite, and the yere next folowing, as much as shal suffice a towne as big as Callice, and that shortly after shall be able to yeeld you great store of strong durable good sider to drinke, & these trees shalbe able to increase you within lesse then vii. yeres as many trees presently to beare, as may suffice the people of diuers parishes, which at the first setling may stand you in great steade, if the soyle haue not the commoditie of fruites of goodnesse already. And because you ought greedily to hunt after thinges that yeelde present reliefe, without trouble of cariage thither, therefore I make mencion of these, thus specially, to the ende you may haue it specially in mynde.

FINIS.